

IPU calls for Israeli withdrawal

AMMAN (J.T.) — The 75 Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) conference has called for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories. The conference, which ended its meeting in Mexico City Saturday night, also denounced all Israeli arbitrary measures against the Arab people of Palestine. The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that the conference adopted the resolution with 599 votes against 297 with 171 abstentions. The resolution, Petra said, condemned Israel's annexation of Arab land occupied since 1967 and its drive to change the demographic, cultural and geographic features of Palestine, its continued acts of repression against the Palestinian people and its Oct. 1, 1985 air raid on Tunis that caused the death of innocent people.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورديان تايمز يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الراي

Volume 11 Number 3146

AMMAN, MONDAY APRIL 14, 1986, SHA'ABAN 5, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Iraq reports retaking border post

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq on Sunday reported a strategic border post recaptured from Iranian troops in the Gulf war central sector on Saturday. The Iraqi News Agency quoted a military spokesman as saying the attack on Salahaddin post left 720 Iranian dead and hundreds of wounded. It gave no further details.

Murphy arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — Special U.S. Middle East envoy Richard Murphy arrived Sunday for an announced visit during which Egyptian sources said he was to meet with Egypt's foreign minister, Mr. Murphy and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid last met during the former's swing through the area on Thursday in a session that included President Hosni Mubarak. The purpose of Sunday's visit was not known, although Mr. Murphy said last week he was seeking ways to restore movement towards an overall peace settlement in the region. His visit during the week emphasised a border dispute between Egypt and Israel, in which Mr. Murphy was said to have presented U.S. ideas to solve the impasse.

Egypt, W. Germany reach security accords

CAIRO (AP) — West Germany's Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann was received on Sunday by President Hosni Mubarak. Mr. Zimmermann said he and Mr. Mubarak discussed bilateral cooperation and the situation in the Middle East. Following the one-hour meeting, Mr. Zimmermann said he had made "specific agreements" with Egyptian officials related to security and drug smuggling, but gave no details.

Briton questioned over 'spying for Czechs'

LONDON (R) — Britain's intelligence experts on Sunday questioned a civil servant alleged in a television documentary to have passed secrets to the Soviet bloc. Police said, Police said Brian Gentleman, 27, a clerical assistant at the Department of Trade and Industry, was questioned by detectives probing claims that he had passed classified information to a Czechoslovak diplomat in London. British Commercial Television and press reports said Saturday that Mr. Gentleman had admitted passing information in 1983 about the NATO alliance's next generation of fighter aircraft and engines used in British air force planes.

Lange rules out early release of French agents

LONDON (R) — New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange on Sunday ruled out the early release of two French agents jailed for bombing the Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior. Speaking on a domestic phone-in programme broadcast by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Lange said his government would reject any political solution for their freedom.

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Libya evacuates army from bases and moves foreigners to oilfields

Arab League rallies behind Libya

Combined agency despatches

LIBYA SAID on Sunday it had withdrawn its armed forces from military bases said to be targeted by the U.S. and was moving foreign workers, mostly American citizens, to live in vital desert oilfields that might also come under attack.

In Tunis, the Arab League condemned U.S. threats against Libya, saying Tripoli must not be made to take the blame for isolated acts of violence. The campaign orchestrated by the United States against Libya is based on obscure accusations which are not justified by any tangible proof, the Arab League headquarters said in a statement. It is unthinkable that such tiny certain small, despicable and irresponsible groups can limit isolated acts of violence, the responsibility for these acts is ascribed to whatever Arab country, the statement said.

Affirming the "solidarity of Arab states," with Libya, the league said that isolated acts of violence "cannot be fought by another, more muscular terrorism from the part of a superpower, but by the removal of the profound

causes at the origin of this mounting despair which generates the violence from which we all suffer."

The United States has said that Libya is a suspect in the April 5 bombing of a discotheque in West Berlin which killed two people and injured 230.

The Arab League said Saturday that its members would be willing to join ministers of the European Community (EC) in talks on "terrorism" but on condition the talks delve into the reasons behind "terrorism."

Libya has asked Arab states to take "individual and collective measures to deter U.S. aggression," including halting the supply of oil.

Libyan Television said chiefs of Arab diplomatic missions in Libya were summoned to the Foreign Ministry and told the Arab res-

ponse to U.S. "aggression" against Libya would be ineffective unless they stopped supplying the United States with oil.

They should also withdraw Arab deposits in U.S. banks, impose an economic boycott and stop providing facilities for U.S. shipping.

The Arab states should also put pressure on Europe not to get involved and should sever diplomatic relations with the United States "and any state which aids or sympathizes with aggression," the envoys were told, according to the television.

It also reported that the ambassadors of unidentified socialist states were summoned to be "informed of the tense situation in the Mediterranean as a result of U.S. threats against Libya."

Syria on Sunday pledged to "participate in the confrontation of American forces" if the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean

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Israeli coalition seeks last-minute compromise

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres postponed a crucial cabinet meeting on Sunday in a last-minute attempt to save Israel's multi-party government from collapse.

Peres, who has threatened to dismiss his finance minister when the cabinet convenes, decided to delay Sunday morning's scheduled meeting until Sunday night to give mediators more time, his office said.

The crisis which has threatened the government for six days revolves around Peres' demand that Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai resign for insulting him publicly and deriding the government's economic policies.

If no compromise is found, Peres will hand Mordechai a pink slip and trigger a walkout by Mordechai's Likud bloc and the probable collapse of the government.

A compromise worked out last week with the right-wing Likud called for Mordechai to switch jobs with Likud leader and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

But the deal fell apart during the weekend over the question of whether Mordechai would resume the finance portfolio once Shamir takes over the job of prime minister from Peres in October under a power-sharing agreement between their parties.

3 Israelis wounded in West Bank bus attack

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Unidentified men fired shots and hurled a petrol bomb at an Israeli bus in the occupied West Bank Saturday night, wounding its driver and two passengers, military sources quoted by news agencies said.

The incident occurred in the village of Deir Abu Maslam, reports said.

The driver was hospitalized in serious condition with a bullet in his lung and the two passengers were in satisfactory condition with slight wounds, said sources quoted by AP.

The bus was on its way from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv but had stopped to pick up passengers at several Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

Israeli troops imposed a curfew on the area to search for clues and suspects, said the sources. There were reports of an unknown number of Arabs being detained.

There are frequent stone-throwing attacks on Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank, and Israeli army figures show 17 Israelis were killed in attacks in and around the occupied territories last year.

For ner budget director castigates Reagan and aides in new book

By Arthur Spiegelman
Writer

NEW YORK — Former White House Budget Director David Stockman says President Ronald Reagan has no grasp of economic concepts and is surrounded by "ultimately" incompetent advisers, has created massive budget deficits that threaten America's future.

In excerpts from his new book in the latest issue of Newsweek magazine, Mr. Stockman paints a devastating portrait of Mr. Reagan and the men who surround him — men Mr. Stockman loyally served with as federal budget director from 1981 to 1985.

Mr. Stockman, paid a reported \$2 million advance by Harper and Row for his inside look at the White House, calls Mr. Reagan a man who "wanders in circles," whose mind "registers anecdotes rather than concepts," and who at one point had to be given a multiple-choice quiz to interest him in the budget.

After one meeting with Mr. Reagan to convince him of the



Ronald Reagan

He writes that in 1982 he devised a multiple-choice quiz to convince Mr. Reagan of the seriousness of the budgetary shortfall.

"The quiz divided the budget up into 50 spending components and gave him three spending choices ranging from a nickel to a heavy whack," Mr. Stockman says.

Mr. Reagan enjoyed taking the test but failed it, Mr. Stockman says: the five-year budget deficit remained at a staggering \$800 billion.

When Mr. Reagan came into office he planned an economic revolution that was to couple giant domestic spending cuts with a 30 per cent tax cut and the biggest military build-up in American history, his former budget chief writes.

America got the tax cut and the military build-up but not the deep spending cuts, and Mr. Stockman says this could devastate the economy.

He blames the failure of the Reagan economic revolution on himself, on the president and on White House advisers, whom he

King returns after talks in S. Arabia

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein returned to Amman on Sunday at the end of a two-day working visit to Saudi Arabia where he held talks with King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz on the Middle East question and Arab affairs.

The talks, held in Dhahran, also dealt with ways for ending Arab differences and mobilising Arab ranks in the face of dangers threatening the whole Arab nation, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Petra said among the main topics the two leaders discussed were also the Iran-Iraq war and issues of common concern to Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

It said that the Jordanian delegation accompanying King Hussein on the visit took part in the talks.

King Hussein earlier visited Medina where he said prayers at the Prophet Mohammad's Tomb and also recited verses of the Holy Koran at the tombs of the Prophet's companions.

Upon returning to Amman, the King was greeted by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, His Royal Highness

Crown Prince Hassan, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Chief Chamberlain, Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, cabinet members and senior officials.

Returning with the King were members of the Jordanian delegation comprising Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker as well as Jordan's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Mohammad Rasoul Al Keilani.

Officials in Dhahran quoted by Reuters said the outcome of U.S. Vice-President George Bush's tour of four Arabian peninsula states, including Saudi Arabia, also figured in the talks the King had with the Saudi leader.

Mr. Bush, who also visited Bahrain, Oman, and North Yemen, raised speculation in the region of a breakthrough in the Middle East peace process with remarks on a possible new American "initiative." The State Department in Washington said no new initiative was planned.

Queen visits craft exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Sunday visited an exhibition of traditional handicrafts held at an old building at Umam Al Kundum in Amman's suburbs. The exhibition, organised by the American Save the Children Fund, in cooperation with the Queen Noor Foundation (QNF), displays crafts by local artisans and craftsmen working under a project supervised by the QNF and aims at developing local crafts, and at the same time raising the living standards of craftsmen's families. The project also aims at promoting Jordan's cultural heritage and also helps craftsmen to market their products locally and abroad. QNF plans to hold similar exhibitions in Jordan and abroad to help in marketing these products, according to a QNF spokesman. The Queen toured the exhibition's sections which display rugs prepared by Hamlekh bedouin tribes near Madaba, traditional embroidery coloured glass, straw and bamboo works and pottery.



His Majesty King Hussein is received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad upon His Majesty's arrival from Saudi Arabia (above). King Fahd of Saudi Arabia bids farewell to His Majesty prior to King Hussein's departure to Amman (below) (Petra photos)



Spanish speaker lauds Jordan's efforts

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Spanish official said on Sunday he was convinced that the Jordanian leadership and officials were exerting all efforts to solve the Palestine problem and end the Iran-Iraq war and reiterated Spain's support for the convening of an international peace conference to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Although Jose Frederico de Carvajal, speaker of the Spanish Upper House of Parliament (Senado), declined to comment on the Jordanian stand vis-a-vis the Middle East problem in "concrete terms," he said that they are determined to solve all problems through peaceful means.

Mr. de Carvajal, who is currently on a seven-day fact-finding mission to Jordan, said "Spain wants to contribute to solving the Palestine problem in a way which guarantees the Palestinian people's rights, including their right to self-determination."

The 56-year-old Malaga-born speaker, who is heading a Senado delegation comprising of Second Deputy Speaker Juan Carlos Ojeda Zuzunegui and Secretary General Jose Manuel Serrano, said Spain "backs any initiatives which come from peace-loving countries" to halt the almost six-year old Iran-Iraq war.

"Our position on the Iran-Iraq war is clear," he said. "We are in support of any peaceful proposals to end the war but we see that the Iranian position on the war is a bit difficult," added Mr. de Carvajal, a Socialist.

The speaker, who held talks with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Zaid Rifai during his current visit, said Spain "will channel all efforts in Europe to bring about an end to

(Continued on page 3)

New flare-up kills 2 and injures 17 in Beirut camps

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese militia men clashed with Palestinian defenders of the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps on Sunday. Police said two people were killed and 17 wounded in the night fighting and rocket-propelled grenade exchanges.

One of those killed was a militia man of the Lebanese Shiite Amal movement. All the other casualties were Lebanese and Palestinian civilians.

This raised the overall toll in the camps war since March 28 to 54 killed and 222 wounded.

The Voice of the Nation Radio said a 200-man disengagement force of Lebanese militiamen is expected to deploy in the embattled shantytowns, home for 20,000 refugees, Monday afternoon.

A mal and the Palestinians have accused each other of torpedoing a Syrian-brokered ceasefire agreement under which the four-party force was to deploy Saturday.

Militia leaders, including Amal chief Nabih Berri, met pro-Syrian Palestinian factions and Syrian observers on Saturday to try to stabilise a ceasefire agreed on Wednesday.

A spokesman for the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which joined the peace efforts for the first time, described the meeting as positive.

The U.N. Relief and Works Agency said it was distributing emergency food rations to some 1,600 Palestinian refugees who had fled Sabra and Shatila.

It said in a statement that recent fighting has severely damaged homes and schools in the camps.

A Palestinian spokesman in Shatila, speaking to AP on condition of anonymity, said three Palestinians, including a 13-year-old girl, were killed as mortar, rocket-propelled grenade and machine gun duels raged on the four entrances to the camps on Saturday.

Pope visits synagogue amid Arab calls for consistent Vatican policy

ROME (Agencies) — Pope John Paul II on Sunday visited a synagogue in the first-ever visit by a pontiff to a synagogue as Arabs voiced hope that the trip would not herald a change in the Vatican's stand towards the Arab-Israeli conflict and Palestinian rights.

Security was tight for the papal visit to Rome's main synagogue, just across the Tiber River from the Vatican.

During the visit, the Pope read a psalm in Hebrew.

At the end of the official part of the visit the Pope and Rome's chief rabbi, Elia Toaff, embraced. Rabbi Toaff and the Pope then went into a private meeting.

Both Rabbi Toaff and Giacomo Saban, head of the Italian Jewish community, hinted in speeches they would like to see the Vatican establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

In a speech, on the occasion, the Pope pledged that the Roman Catholic Church would further its efforts to remove all forms of pre-

judice.

But he did not address the thorny issue of the Vatican's refusal to establish diplomatic relations with Israel.

Arab ambassadors accredited to the Vatican on Saturday issued a statement expressing hope that the papal visit to the synagogue would not lead to the Pope abandoning his principles with regard to peace in the Middle East.

The pontiff and the rabbi, page 4

David Stockman

calls "economic and fiscal illiterates" and "ultimately incompetent."

In his book, entitled "The Triumph of Politics: Why the Reagan Revolution Failed," Mr. Stockman says:

"In November 1981, Ronald Reagan chose not to be a leader but a politician... his obstinacy

(against deep spending cuts or higher taxes) was destined to keep America's economy hostage to the errors of his advisers for a long, long time."

Mr. Stockman says Donald Reagan, current White House chief of staff, operates "on the echo principle. Whatever the president insisted on, he (Reagan) would try to get — without regard to the price."

Mr. Stockman complains that Defence Secretary Weinberger used Madison Avenue advertising techniques to defend the military budget, including displaying for Mr. Reagan charts showing a Soviet tank factory superimposed on a map of Washington.

At one meeting, when Mr. Weinberger told Mr. Reagan to veto any congressional move to raise taxes, Mr. Stockman says he slapped a hand over his face to stop himself from shouting an obscenity.

Mr. Stockman is also critical of three Californians who were closest to the president — Edwin Meese, now attorney general, political adviser Lyn Nofziger, and

former top aide Michael Deaver. Mr. Stockman says the president calls them "the Fellers."

"They never read anything, they lived off the tube," he writes. He says the three were behind efforts to chastise him for a published interview in November 1981 in which he expressed doubts about "Reaganomics." He says that when he met privately with Mr. Reagan on the matter, the president's eyes were moist and he asked: "Dave... you have hurt me. Why?"

Mr. Stockman writes that by 1984, just before the presidential election, he wanted to quit: "I... became a veritable incubator of shortcuts, schemes and devices to overcome the truth now upon us..."

But when he told James Baker, the current treasury secretary, of his plans to quit, Mr. Baker said: "You do that and you'll stab the president in the back..." "You've made as many mistakes as the rest of us around here, so stick that unwarranted pride of yours up your a — and get back into the trenches with the rest of us."

Mitterrand said to be seeking better ties with Iran

TEHRAN (R) — Tehran Radio on Sunday quoted French President Francois Mitterrand as calling for the normalisation of Franco-Iranian relations in the strongest French expression yet of a desire to mend fences with the Islamic republic.

"Mitterrand emphasised his interest in normalising relations in a manner befitting the two great countries of Iran and France," the radio said of a message from Paris for Iranian President Ali Khamenei.

The secretary-general of the French External Relations Ministry, Andre Ross, handed the message to Mr. Khamenei's advisor Mustafa Mirsalim, the radio said. Mr. Ross was ending a four-day visit to Iran Sunday night.

The new French government is seeking better relations with Iran after a bad patch in recent months, and Mr. Ross on Saturday suggested that new French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond come to Tehran.

Analysts said Tehran showed some willingness to improve relations with Paris by scheduling meetings for Mr. Ross with two top leaders on Saturday, Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi and Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Mr. Mousavi linked further improvement in relations to practical steps on France's part and said any high-ranking French visit would depend on the "development of affairs."

كيتا في الحلب

Associations condemn U.S. 'aggression' against Libya

AMMAN (J.T.) — Several Jordanian professional associations Sunday condemned United States policies and its military threats directed against Libya. A statement issued jointly by six of these associations deplored Washington's show of force in the Mediterranean and U.S. aggression on Libya which they said is strongly condemned by all Arab countries and the world at large.

States provocations and state terrorism," the statement said. It also called on the Arab Nation to extend support to Libya in defending its lands and territorial waters. The statement appealed to world nations to denounce the United States and to support Libya in confronting American aggression and to expose the "arrogant American position which threatens world peace."

Cabinet approves scientific accord with Czechoslovakia

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has approved a proposed agreement for technical and scientific cooperation between Jordan and Czechoslovakia. The decision was made during the cabinet's ordinary session held Sunday under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahab Al Majali.

The cabinet also formed a Jordanian delegation to hold talks with Iraqi officials on further bolstering and promoting trade and economic relations between Jordan and Iraq. The delegation will be led by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Saudi security delegation arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — A Saudi Interior Ministry delegation, led by Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz Al Sudeiri, the emir of Al Qadisiyah region, arrived in Amman Sunday on a three-day visit to Jordan. During their visit, the delegation will hold talks with Ministry of Interior officials on bilateral cooperation in security fields. The Saudi delegation was met at Queen Alia International Airport by Ma'an Governor Eid Al Qatameh as well as a number of officials from the Ministry of Interior and the Public Security Department.

Iraqi youth minister due today

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraqi Youth Minister Nouri Faisal is due in Amman today for an official visit to Jordan upon an invitation from Youth Minister Hisham Al Sharari. During the several day visit, the Iraqi minister will hold talks with Mr. Sharari on further supporting and strengthening existing cooperation between the two countries in sport and youth fields.

Shaka'a leaves for Casablanca meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Justice Rida Al Shaka'a left for Casablanca Sunday at the head of a delegation to take part in the fourth meeting of the Arab Justice Ministers' Council, due to open Monday. The four-day meeting is due to discuss a report by the council's general secretariat on the implementation of previous sessions and Arab legislation on arbitration, juvenile delinquency and criminal law, in addition to legal and judicial affairs of pan-Arab concern. Mr. Shaka'a is accompanied by a delegation of six judges and officials from the Justice Ministry.

Seminar on housing to start today

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on funding housing projects in the Arab World is due to open today under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The seminar, organised by the Housing Bank in cooperation with the Arab Banks Association, is expected to discuss means to improve national savings for funding housing projects in the Arab World. Representatives of Arab ministries of finance, funds and banks will participate in the three-day seminar which aims to exchange expertise between participants. Housing corporations, funding, real estate companies and housing in the occupied Arab territories will be discussed in working papers to be presented to the seminar.

Temperatures to drop, Abanda says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will witness a slight drop in temperature overnight following a Khamasenic depression which affected the Kingdom over the past two days when temperatures reached 31 degrees Centigrade in hilly areas, Meteorology Department Director General Ali Abanda said Sunday. Dr. Abanda told the Jordan Times that the depression will gradually recede and the weather will be partly cloudy during the day. Meanwhile, Public Security sources Sunday warned drivers about misty and dusty roads in Mafrq Governorate. The source requested all drivers to take extra care while driving on roads in the Eastern and Southern regions.

Jordan to attend Arab railway talks

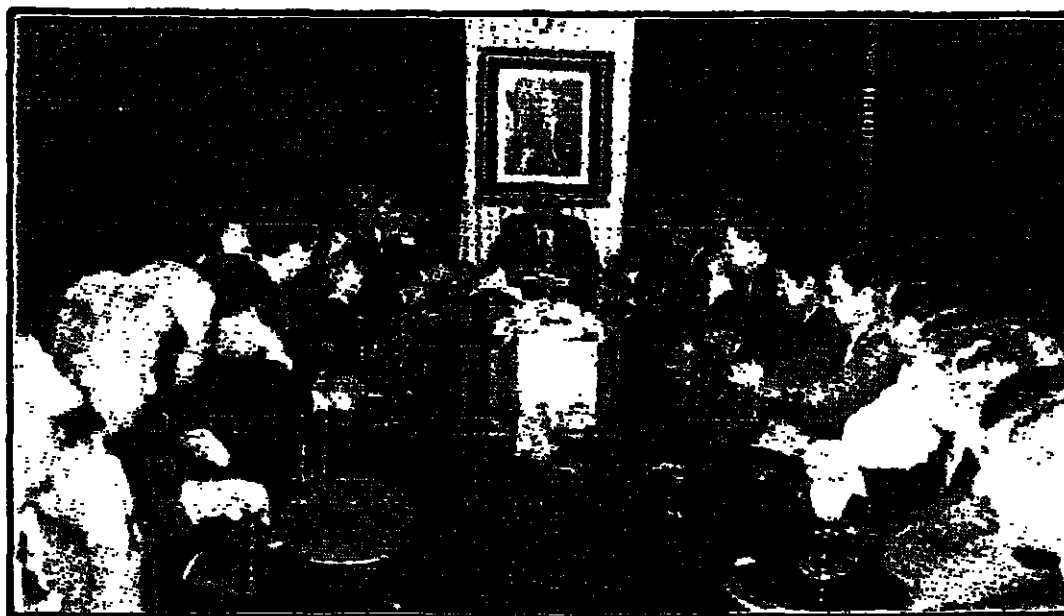
AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian delegation is due to leave for Damascus Monday to take part in an annual meeting of directors of railway corporations in the Middle East region, due to open on Tuesday. According to Dr. Abdullah Hijazi, director general of the Jordanian Hijaz Railway Corporation (JHRC), the meeting will discuss coordination and cooperation between railway corporations in the region, especially in the field of training and exchange of expertise. The two-day meeting will also prepare a formula for future cooperation among railway corporations in the Arab World. Dr. Hijazi said. Dr. Hijazi will be accompanied by Mr. Yardi Qattameen, director of the Aqaba Railway Corporation.

UNRWA director meets refugee notables

AMMAN (J.T.) — Director of United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) in Jordan Per Olof Hallqvist Saturday briefed twenty refugee notables from Jerash and Souf refugee camps on UNRWA's work and finances with emphasis on the services provided to refugees in Jordan, according to an UNRWA press release. The refugee notables made a number of requests for possible improvements in the agency's services and Mr. Hallqvist commented that requests would be considered in the light of available financial resources, the release said.

AOAS holds seminar on conferences

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS) Saturday opened a two-week seminar on conference management. Representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Planning in Arab countries are attending the seminar which will be devoted to discussing techniques in organising regional and international conferences. Among the main speakers at the opening session was Under Secretary of the Ministry of Information Michael Hamameh.



Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed Sunday holds a meeting with a Syrian delegation at the Interior Ministry (Petra photo)

RSS to mark 16th anniversary today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) celebrates its 16th anniversary on Monday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, founder of the scientific research and development institution.

On this occasion, RSS advisor to the president on technical affairs Arafat Tamimi reviewed the society's future policies in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra. Mr. Tamimi said that the society will continue its scientific, developmental research work which serves development in the Kingdom, particularly in the industrial field, in addition to its technical services to the public and private sectors.

The society cooperates with international and Arab institutions through its participation in several conferences and seminars in the Kingdom and abroad.

Mr. Tamimi said that efforts exerted by Prince Hassan are a source of pride for the Kingdom. Quoting the Prince, Mr. Tamimi said: "The basic requirements for development are the human, financial and technological resources. There is nothing in the way of social and technological development becoming a reality in the near future."

Outlining the society's fields of specialisation, Mr. Tamimi said it deals with developing electronic training systems and other related technical studies to be utilised in projects in the Kingdom. He said that the RSS undertakes economic and technical feasibility studies for economic and industrial projects and projects dealing with the environment, industrial security, construction technology and the development of construction systems for citizens with a limited income.

Biological tests

Mr. Tamimi said the society has the capacity to carry out biological tests in several diversified fields. He said it also handles maintenance work for scientific, medical and industrial electronic systems in the field of telecommunications and wireless. The RSS also sets the technical standards and qualifications for construction materials in the Kingdom.

The Economic Research Department at the RSS contributes to the Kingdom's economic development through feasibility studies and the assessment of industrial projects. It also carries out similar studies on the economy in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. These studies are offered to planners and concerned officials in both the public and private sectors.

Scientific, technical agreements

Mr. Tamimi also pointed out scientific and technological agreements signed between the RSS and similar institutions in other countries, namely with the Kuwait Academy for Scientific Research, the Iraqi Scientific Research Institute, the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology and the Islamic Institute for Science and Technology.

The RSS was established in accordance with a Royal Decree in 1970.

Alia introduces new boarding system

AMMAN (J.T.) — Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, has introduced a new aircraft boarding procedure at the Queen Alia International Airport to facilitate boarding procedures, improve passenger assistance and minimise boarding time, according to a Alia News bulletin. According to the new system, passengers requiring assistance and families with children will board the aircraft first, the bulletin added.

Kayed, Syrian governors discuss border issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Syrian delegation currently on a visit to Jordan for talks on border security issues were received Sunday by Interior Minister Hassan Al Kayed. The two-member delegation, comprising the governors of Sweida and Dera'a, held discussions with the minister on issues of common concern to Jordan and Syria, especially matters related to security along the border, travel facilities at border posts and the issue of land owned by Jordanians and Syrians on both sides of the border.

The delegation, accompanied by the governors of Irbid and Mafrq, also called at the Public Security Department (PSD) where

they met with PSD deputy director Major-General Sami Al Saket and other senior officers. The delegation members were briefed on the department's programmes and achievements.

Later, the delegation called at the Civil Defence Department and met with its director Lieutenant-General Khaled Tarawneh who expressed hope there could be cooperation between the civil defence departments in Jordan and Syria. Lt.-Gen. Tarawneh spoke of the early warning system which links the department with factories and businesses to provide a speedy service including fire fighting and first aid. Senior department officers were present at the meeting.

Iraqi engineers complete seismological programme

AMMAN (Petra) — An Iraqi seismological survey team has completed a survey programme for prospecting for oil in various areas of the country. A responsible source at the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) said that the team has been awarded a medal of independence of the third order in recognition of their efforts and he added that the medal will be presented to the head of the team, Mr. Hatem Al Bayyati.

The sources added that the team began its survey on April 7, 1985 and carried out a seismological survey of a total of 425 kilometres in the southern Jordan Valley, the Jordan River Basin, Ghor Al Safi and Wadi Araba. The team also carried out a seismological survey of 700 kilometres in Swaqah area in addition to 180 kilometres in the Hamzeh oil field area, the sources added.

Zawaideh returns from Arab talks on housing the homeless

AMMAN (Petra) — Housing Corporation Director Shafiq Zawaideh returned to Amman Sunday after representing Jordan at a meeting, held in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), which was designed to pave the way for a U.N. sponsored international conference on providing housing for the homeless.

During the five-day meeting, Mr. Zawaideh said, the delegates discussed Arab countries' national plans to be implemented in the U.N. international year for the homeless in 1987 and Arab housing projects in general.

The Jordanian delegation submitted two studies to the meeting, the first dealing with urban development in the Kingdom and the second on sources for financing housing projects in the country, Mr. Zawaideh said. He continued that the delegation exchanged views with Arab delegations on housing schemes and development plans.

At the meeting, the delegates, representing Arab countries and regional organisations, discussed the objectives of the international year for the homeless which aims to improve poor districts and to provide decent housing for all people, especially in developing nations. Also during the year, the U.N. will draw up plans to achieve these objectives from now until the year 2000.

Woman leaves her newborn baby on side of the road

AMMAN (J.T.) — Police have found the body of a newborn baby wrapped in a blanket and left at the side of the road in Wadi Shu'eb area of the Jordan Valley. A report in the local press said that police found the baby's mother, identified as A.M.A., in less than 48 hours after finding the baby's body.

The mother admitted that the baby was hers and she said that she had a miscarriage and left the baby on the side of the road. Earlier this month the body of another newborn baby was found in the Yajouz area.

Another report in the local

press said that a 50-year-old man from Zarqa, identified only as G.A., shot his son with a revolver following a family dispute. The son was wounded and rushed to the government hospital in Zarqa for treatment. The father has been apprehended for questioning, the report said.

Another report in the press said that an Egyptian national, Musa Yusuf, was killed when an unknown assailant shot him at a store in Baqa'a refugee camp. The body was taken to the University of Jordan Hospital for an autopsy and the police are hunting for the killer, the report said.

Police apprehend two thieves, third robber still at large

AMMAN (J.T.) — The police have just announced the capture of two Algerian nationals who, together with a third Algerian, broke into homes and stores and stole electrical appliances, cash and jewellery.

Reports in the local press said that the police caught one of the thieves as he was trying to leave the country near the border post of Ramtha and also captured another who worked as a driver in Amman. But the third member of the gang is still at large, the reports said.

According to Major Saleh Karasneh, director of the criminal research section at Amman police headquarters, the police received many complaints from the public about robberies and thefts, the most recent of which was on April 3 when a man reported that, upon reaching home, he found someone

inside and he told the police that the thief escaped in a waiting rented car with the number plate 814. It was the number of the car that provided a lead to the capture of the two Algerians who lived in Jabal Luweibdeh with their third accomplice, according to Maj. Karasneh. He said that the police were stepping up their search for the third man who could still be in the country.

The two thieves admitted to stealing television and video sets and jewellery, worth at least JD 15,000 in addition to large sums of cash. They also said that they came to Jordan for the purpose of committing robberies and thefts. The police identified the two captured men as AMB and SSM and said that a man, MMG, who sells video tapes agreed with the gang to market whatever items they brought him.

Peruvian trade team ends visit

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — In an attempt to bolster and promote South-South trade and economic cooperation, a 70-member Peruvian economic team, headed by Senator Miguel Angel Mufarech, made a three-day stopover in Amman during which they organised an exhibition of Peruvian agricultural, industrial and textile products. The delegation left Amman on Sunday.

According to Mr. Mufarech, Jordanian businessmen and traders placed several orders to be followed by opening letters of credit between Jordanian and Peruvian traders. Mr. Mufarech could not give exact details on the amounts of orders placed by Jordanian businessmen for the purchase of Peruvian products, but he estimated the orders to be worth several million dollars.

Mr. Mufarech, a special economic envoy of Peruvian President Allan Garcia Perez, said Sunday that his country is keen on boosting trade with Arab countries from the present \$700 million to at least \$1.5 billion within two years. "Our annual revenues from exports are \$3 billion, from imports \$2.5 billion and Peru's economy has the capacity to increase its exports up to \$4 billion," Mr. Mufarech explained.

"According to our figures, the Arab World annually imports \$200 billion worth of goods from all over the world. If we can have \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion of this trade, we will be quite satisfied," Mr. Mufarech told the Jordan Times in an interview. Peru at present only trades with Syria, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia with an annual turnover of about \$700 million.

New markets

One of the main reasons for Peru embarking on this trade mission, which will tour 13 Arab cities in 10 countries in 35 days, is to open up new markets and to establish good contacts with Arab states in general and Arab oil-producing countries in particular. "We hope to expand our trade, especially with the Arab World," Mr. Mufarech, a member of the National Integration Party (NIP) of the Peruvian opposition, said.

Peru produces 70 million barrels of oil per annum but supplies are expected to run out in seven years. "In order to guarantee future oil supplies, we had to think of establishing excellent contacts with the Arab World through increasing economic and trade cooperation and by setting up joint ventures with Arab states," the Peruvian Senator, who is of Lebanese origin, said.

In a bid to increase the volume of trade with Middle East countries, Peru will open up trade centres in various Arab capitals, open new embassies, appoint honorary counsellors and find

agents and brokers in all Arab states, Mr. Mufarech continued. The delegation, which left Amman for Baghdad on Sunday on the third leg of their Middle East tour, were briefed by Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply Rajai Muasher on Jordan's economic development and ways and means of increasing trade and economic cooperation between both countries.

The Peruvian team, which includes 60 members from the private industrial sector and 10 government officials as well as bankers, established "very good" contacts with the federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and expect that Jordanian representatives of the private and public industrial sector will visit Peru soon to develop further cooperation.

Dr. Muasher provided the visiting delegation with a list of Jordanian products which could be marketed in Peru.

Mr. Mufarech denied reports that Peru and Jordan were expected to sign minutes of economic cooperation during the delegation's stay in the Kingdom. "One can not sign such an important document in two days," he said, emphasising that in the near future the Peruvian non-resident ambassador to Jordan would sign minutes of economic cooperation with Dr. Muasher.

Trade exhibition

Items on display at the Peruvian exhibition included: boilers, ovens, electrical equipment, taps and pipes, wood samples, shoes, canned fish, all kinds of beans, coffee, edible and cooking oil and fats, food colourants, tomato juice and paste, tobacco, cotton and

Government leases more land for agricultural development

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture has leased 22,000 dunams of semi-arid land in Sahi Al Suwayn region, southern Jordan, to the Jordan Finance House for Development and Investment (JFHD) and this land will be developed for agricultural purposes in accordance with an agreement signed in Amman Sunday.

Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakkhan said at the signing ceremony that the JFHD is one of five local firms which has government approval to develop a

total of 75,000 dunams of unused land in southern Jordan as the first stage of a government plan to reclaim semi-desert regions in the Kingdom.

The second stage entails leasing 40,000 dunams for development and agreements on the leases will be signed in the coming month, Mr. Dakkhan said. In June, the government will sign another agreement for the exploitation of another 40,000 dunams of semi arid land in the country, the minister said.

After their stay in Baghdad, the economic delegation will visit Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Algeria and Morocco.

Mr. Mufarech said that he and Dr. Muasher discussed the contents of the ministry's tender to be floated in the coming days and said that his company was ready to provide Jordan with the 150 buses in a maximum period of 20 months. His company works jointly with the Swedish company Volvo which supplies the engines while Autopartes Morillas builds the bodies.

Out of the 60 representatives of the private industrial sector there were 15 Peruvian citizens of Lebanese and Palestinian origin. They regard their tour as "vital and important" in areas of promoting trade between Peru and Arab countries. There are around 5,000 people of Arab origin living in Peru. "The Peruvian government backs our industrial sector and Arabs form the back-bone of a number of major businesses in Peru," said an owner of a cotton factory.

According to Herman Garrido Lecca, vice chairman of Peru's international bank, Jordan's economic structure stands out in comparison with other economies of the Arab World. "Jordan has a service-oriented economy and a sophisticated banking sector," said Mr. Lecca stressing that his government is eager to promote trade and economic cooperation with Jordan. "Counter trade agreements and barter trade are focuses of interests to both governments" Mr. Lecca added, saying that Peru shows great interest in importing Jordanian potash and fertilisers.

After their stay in Baghdad, the economic delegation will visit Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Algeria and Morocco.

Libya evacuates army bases and moves foreigners

(Continued from page 1)

attacks Libya, the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported. The declaration came in a statement by an authoritative source carried by SANA.

"While Syria condemns strongly this premeditated escalation in the Mediterranean and its dangerous repercussions on the peoples of the area and international peace and security, it wishes to stress that it will participate next to Libya in confronting this flagrant and unjustified aggression," the statement said.

The statement was issued soon after Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam met with Libyan Foreign Minister Ahmad Al Vansouri who flew into Damascus on a surprise visit early Sunday.

There are indications that the United States is seriously considering committing an aggression

against Libya after it has prepared for it through a massive propaganda campaign and through gathering fleets in the Mediterranean," the authoritative source said.

In Washington, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead told the U.S. television network CBS on Sunday that the United States did not believe Libya was moving foreign workers.

The comments came as the U.S. Sixth Fleet held position off the coast of Sicily, awaiting on a decision on a possible strike against Libya.

"Foreign workers have been forced to live in them (oil fields), taking into account that the majority are Americans," said a statement released by a Libyan Information Department official, who asked not to be identified by name.

An estimated 800 Americans live in Libya, including executives, oil field workers and about 100 American women married to Libyans.

Other Westerners in Libya include Europeans, with the British community, for example, estimated at 5,000.

The Libyan statement on Sunday also said: "The military camps have been handed over to foreigners to repair them and to use them to live there. Foreign workers have been moved to army camps."

"Libya has got information that America is going to attack several army camps and oil fields and petro-chemical companies," the statement also said.

The statement said the moves to the oil fields and military bases took place Saturday and the army has been moved to undisclosed locations.

Spanish speaker praises Jordan's efforts

(Continued from page 1)

"the situation in the Middle East." He told a press conference here that his country's Jan. 17 establishment of diplomatic ties with Israel "will strengthen Spain's hand in pushing forward the Middle East peace process."

"After our talks with Jordanian officials a strong feeling has developed (among Jordanian officials) that Spain is in a better position to participate in and to push forward the Middle East peace process since Madrid has relations with Jordan and Israel," said Mr. de Carvajal.

During their stay in Jordan, the Spanish parliamentarians met with Upper House for Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and First Deputy Speaker of the Lower House Ismael Hijazi.

In response to a question at Sunday's press conference, Mr. de Carvajal said: "We have not met with any members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) since our pre-arranged programme did not include such meetings."

Commenting on Spain's entry

to the 10-member European Community (EC) on Jan. 1, Mr. de Carvajal said: "Our membership in the EC will strengthen our position regarding all efforts to solve the Middle East conflict."

In reply to a question on Spain's position on U.S.-Libyan tension in the Mediterranean, he said: "We have clearly stated that no problem can be solved by using weapons."

Spain hosts five American military bases administered jointly by American and Spanish officials. Under a treaty signed with the U.S., Spain should be consulted before Washington chooses to utilise the facilities for any purposes.

"We are not ready to accept any kind of menace from Libya," Mr. de Carvajal said in reply to questions over Spain's stand regarding Libya's warning to all European Mediterranean countries to stay out of the conflict.

The Spanish delegation's visit to Jordan is seen by observers as part of Jordanian and Spanish efforts to increase cooperation in the fields of trade, economy and tourism. A Spanish Lower House of Par-

liament delegation left Amman two weeks ago after they stayed here on a week-long fact-finding mission.

Mr. de Carvajal and the Senado delegation, which arrived here on Wednesday, were received by Prince Hassan on Sunday.

The Crown Prince and the delegation discussed the Middle East question and Jordanian-Spanish relations, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported.

Petra gave no other details of the meeting but said that it was attended by Mr. Lawzi and Spain's Ambassador to Jordan Emilio Menendez del Valle.

Earlier in the day, the Spanish guests toured the Jordan Valley area and the King Hussein Bridge and visited the site of the 1968 Karameh battle.

Dr. Munther Haddadin, president of the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), explained to the Senado delegation the authority's role in developing the Jordan Valley area and in implementing development plans. The delegation will leave Amman for Madrid on Tuesday.

Jordan Times
An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1977
Arabic name: *الوقت*

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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

The elephant and the fly

FOR the second time in less than a month the world is witnessing a dangerous scene where the U.S. is staging another show of military muscle against Libya. Already, in battle array at the vicinity of the Gulf of Sirte are two aircraft carriers — 62,000-ton Coral Sea and 78,500-ton America, together having about 170 fighter jets and attack and electronic warfare aircraft. Yet another test of nerves for Col. Qadhafi, the strong man of Libya, has thus begun.

The one-before-last scene commenced on March 21, when the U.S. started a 10-day military manoeuvre in the Gulf of Sirte with three aircraft carriers, 27 cruisers and 245 fighter planes taking part in the exercise. When on March 24 Libya resisted U.S. planes crossing the "line of death" — an imaginary line across the Gulf of Sirte drawn by the Libyan leader as the limit of Libyan territorial claim — the U.S. fighters attacked and sunk one of Libya's guided missile patrol boats and also destroyed a radar installation on the shore.

The first U.S.-Libyan confrontation took place during the course of a routine U.S. military manoeuvre in the Mediterranean and one could overlook it as merely accidental. But the fresh U.S. posturing indicates dangerous dimensions. Although they may not necessarily be intended for territorial aggression on Libya, which the U.S. administration considers a sponsor of international terrorism, the U.S. Sixth Fleet's movements seem aimed at provoking a Libyan military response in order to escalate it into a U.S. counter-response. In that event, the U.S., with its superior firepower can inflict unacceptable damages on Libyan military installations and perhaps even cripple its industrial centres by bombardments from the aircraft carriers and quietly retire with the satisfaction that Col. Qadhafi has been taught a very good lesson and that America's prestige as a superpower has been redeemed.

Well and swell if the Reagan administration thinks that way. But unfortunately the issue is not so simple. History teaches us a different lesson and it is that gunboat diplomacy is a thing of the past and has lost relevance in the modern world.

No doubt, U.S.-Libyan relations are strained on more than ideological grounds. But whatever is said and done about Col. Qadhafi and his regime, in a likely confrontation with the U.S. he would be perceived as fighting for a just cause which can be defined in terms of national survival and upholding the right to national sovereignty and integrity of his country. Mr Reagan would have no such cause in a confrontation like this. He fears no territorial aggression against his country from any quarter. His preoccupation or commitment would seem to be centred on maintaining the prestige of America as a superpower that cannot be kidded around by small powers.

But if the U.S. is to regain its lost prestige, it should change its lopsided policies consistently followed in the Middle East and negotiate with lesser powers on more equal terms. It would serve no useful purpose in making Libya a scapegoat on flimsy grounds of supporting international terrorism. The flexing of military muscles by the U.S. against Libya appears to be something only like a furious elephant wanting to stompede to death a fly on its tail which it feels is trying to eat up its entire entrails.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Back to gunboat diplomacy

THE United States is currently stepping up efforts for involving its NATO allies in U.S. reprisal acts against Libya, either through the use of European bases to launch the attack or to enlist moral support for a new U.S. adventure. Any involvement of European countries in an aggression against an Arab country is bound to entail grave dangers to this region and the whole world. An early sign of such danger was represented in Libya's threats to resort to the Warsaw Pact countries to help it fend off any aggression. Whether the Warsaw Pact comes to the aid of Libya or not, the mere threat to Libya is a step towards heightening tension in the world and is bound to involve the superpowers in a game of trying to impose hegemony on the countries of the Middle East. We call on the NATO countries not to succumb to American pressure, and Washington's whims and we also urge the United States to avoid rash action whose consequences would open the door for further acts of violence and acts of revenge that can endanger world peace.

Al Dustour: King pursues Arab interests

KING Hussein's working visit to Saudi Arabia and his talks with King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz is naturally in the course of consultations between the two brotherly countries. But the talks come this time amid serious developments on the Arab scene and dangers that loom in the offing, threatening the whole region. The two leaders have a host of problems to deal with in their talks and perhaps the Gulf War is at the top of the list of priorities because it is a conflict that threatens to engulf the whole region and threatens security and peace in the Arab World. The talks will certainly turn to the Palestinian question which was discussed last week by King Fahd and U.S. Vice President George Bush. King Hussein is concerned with these two questions, and has spent his whole life struggling to bring about justice for Arab causes and a lasting settlement for the Palestine issue.

Sawt Al Shaub: Jordan rallies Arab ranks

JORDAN's close cooperation and constant links and contacts with Damascus, Riyadh and Baghdad, and King Hussein's visits to Arab capitals to meet their leaders, underline the important fact that Jordan is trying hard to build Arab solidarity in the face of the common dangers. This also indicates clearly that Jordan and the other Arab countries have no alternative but to mobilise their resources and efforts and rally their ranks for the common cause. Amman fully agrees with the Arab capitals on the need for joint action and stepped up efforts to end differences among Arab countries which together confront the common challenges. In a true spirit of the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, King Hussein pursues his relentless endeavours for the sake of rallying the Arabs to take a meaningful action in the face of the common enemy and the common threats.

Israel's role in South African sanctions busting

The following is the text of an article by David Watkins, Director of the Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (CAABU) which was first published by the Arab Research Centre, London, in the April 1986 issue of "The Arab Researcher".

FOR all the reluctance of some governments to use sanctions against South Africa, for example those of the United Kingdom and the United States, much the strongest candidate to be sanctions buster is Israel, which is closer to the apartheid state than is any other country in the world. Israel may well be South Africa's largest trading partner and is already a huge and longstanding buster of the 1977 United Nations mandatory sanctions on the export of armaments to South Africa.

There is a fundamental closeness between the two, arising not only through the similarity between South Africa's treatment of its black citizens and Israel's treatment of the Palestinians, but also through a common policy of constant threats against incursions into and occupation of the territory of other countries. The two are close and secret allies in the production and testing of nuclear weapons. If the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to which neither is a signatory, were to be enforced, both would be subject to sanctions on that account alone.

Like their military alliance, their close trading relationship is also highly secretive. There are several reasons for the secrecy but not the least important and very relevant to sanctions busting, is that one of the purposes of the trade alliance is to gain indirect access for South African products to the European Economic Community (EEC) and to the United States of America. Israel is the only country in the world whose exports have unimpeded access to both the EEC and the US (although there is no reciprocal arrangement for EEC and US exports to Israel). Access to both markets for South African products is gained by sending them via Israel.

Accurate figures of Israeli-South African trade are secret, although trade is known to have expanded very considerably in late years and to show a large favourable balance for South Africa. In November 1984, the South African Finance Minister Barend de Plessis, announced that South African imports from Israel were to the value of R73 million while exports to Israel were R157 million. He reported that the figures were showing steady growth and he added, in a singularly revealing comment, that, while the figures might not seem large in themselves — "ties between South Africa and Israel go well beyond the published economic ties and the available trade statistics".

His figures convey, truthfully, an impression of modest trade, putting it at only a fraction of South African trade with the United Kingdom, United States, West Germany and Japan. But the reason the "ties" go well beyond the published and available information is because the figures deliberately exclude two very major sources of exchanges. When those omissions are included, it is not unlikely that Israel is South Africa's biggest trading partner.

The first omission is the export of Israeli armaments and military technology. Those figures are omitted precisely because the exports breach the 1977 United Nations embargo and because they prove that Israel is already a longstanding and huge-scale sanctions buster, notwithstanding that it has given repeated and wholly untruthful assurances that it observes the embargo.

The second omission is the export of uncut diamonds from South Africa to Israel. South Africa is the world's biggest producer of rough diamonds. Israel is the world's largest centre for diamond cutting and polishing. The great bulk of its rough diamonds come from South Africa and its worldwide export of finished stones may exceed even its export of armaments as its biggest foreign currency earner. In the first eleven months of 1985, Israeli diamond exports were \$1,161 million, an increase of 21 per cent over the first eleven months of the previous year. In evidence to the 1984 Congressional hearings on the U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement, the Israeli government stated that cutting and polishing added 25 per cent to the value of imported diamonds, which indicates annual imports of the order of \$800 million plus. The large increase in the year when sanctions first became an international issue is noteworthy.

Diamond cutting and polishing was one of the very first industries to be started in Israel when the state was established in 1948. The export of uncut stones from South Africa was originated, at that time, by the sympathetic Oppenheimer family, founders of the multi-national corporation of which the South African De Beers company is a subsidiary. In the late 1970's and early 80's, in a highly-organised, worldwide operation, Israeli dealers bought up every available diamond they could obtain. The object was to destroy De Beers' long-established world cartel in marketing and to replace it with an Israeli cartel. In an epic struggle, De Beers' control of the market was destroyed. One outcome is that not less than \$1 billion of uncut diamonds are now stored in Israeli banks. They are kept there to support a constant threat to flood the world market if such a course of action should ever suit Israel.

James Adams writes, in his book *The Unnatural Alliance*: In a quietly philanthropic way, De Beers did much to encourage the growth of the Israeli diamond industry and with it the State of Israel by channelling diamonds to Israel and ensuring the Jewish nation regular access to a constant stream of uncut stones, but the child became a greedy adult and brought the whole house of cards tumbling down. Those graphic words show how the Israeli state is as ruthless with friends as with enemies in the pursuit of its own imperialism. The attack on De Beers is a fair sample of the ruthlessness likely to be employed in the role of sanctions buster.

Years of painstaking Israeli and South African subterfuge to circumvent generally accepted standards of international behaviour, has already created a vast machine to bust sanctions against South African exports in manufactured products. That machine can be adapted for agricultural as well as for manufactured products, an important consideration when there is growing public support for boycotts of South African farm produce.

Although boycotts on exported goods are a necessary feature of sanctions, it was restrictions on investments in South Africa which featured centrally in the official (very mild) sanctions and in the international discussion on sanctions initiated in the second half of 1985. Specifically, the measures announced included limitations on new direct investments and on new bank loans. The ISKOR steel company is just one example of Israeli-South African joint investment and Israel is relatively a greater investor in South Africa than vice versa. Itself having an economy totally dependent on outside subventions, Israel uses recycled funds obtained from third parties, especially the U.S., for its investments.

Israel investment is particularly directed towards the bantustans, the so-called independent black homelands within South Africa. Their "independence" is officially recognised only by South Africa but there is *de facto* Israeli recognition. Ministers of the so-called governments are regular official visitors to Israel while, in

its table of international dialling codes, the Israeli telephone service lists the Ciskei and Bophuthatswana bantustans among sovereign nations. There are Israeli investments in numbers of factories and other installations and, by the summer of 1985, there were some 200 Israeli advisers and technicians working in the Ciskei bantustan alone.

In February 1985, Owen Horwood, President of the Development Bank of Southern Africa and former Finance Minister, visited Israel to arrange a major increase in investment. He conferred with the governor of Bank of Israel, with the Ministers of Finance and of Science and Technology, as well as with members of the Knesset and with the heads of leading high technology companies. His purpose was to create a multi-million dollar credit plan to enable Israeli companies to invest in South Africa. Horwood himself was quoted as describing the purpose of his visit as being "to evaluate Israel's role in facilitating the economic development of the Southern African independent states" (i.e. bantustans).

Only a few months later, financial scandals which had been developing over a period, became public knowledge, involving corruption and profiteering among companies and individuals involved in the Israeli operations. The scandals were some embarrassment for Israel's policy of trying to advance its standing with Black African countries while at the same time maintaining and strengthening its close ties with the apartheid state. Characteristically, there were imm-

mediate restrictions on information in both Israel and South Africa and the scandals had little likelihood of weakening the close liaison between the two states.

It is that liaison which is the whole foundation of sanctions busting. Where South African exports are concerned, the liaison provides the means to counter sanctions by the already well-established practice of diverting the exports via Israel. Where restrictions on investment are concerned, it provides a means to break sanctions by laundering capital through Israel.

From which it arises that it is the developed countries, and especially those of the Western world, who have the power to make sanctions work. The events of 1985 showed that there is strong hostility to apartheid in those countries and public support for sanctions. Even where governments could be seen to be lagging behind public opinion, as in Britain and the U.S., there was, and remains powerful support for sanctions. But there is a major contradiction in that many in the developed world who oppose South African policies support Israeli policies just as strongly and show little awareness of Israel's similarity to, close association with and role as sanctions buster for South Africa.

No better examples of that exist than within the convoluted American approach. When, in September 1985, President Reagan announced certain mild sanctions, his main purpose, in a rising tide of public support for sanctions, was to pre-empt the Congress, which was moving towards much stronger measures which he did not

like but which he could not have resisted. Yet the same Congress is almost totally supportive of Israel. The approach of Senator Edward Kennedy alone, one of the foremost leaders in the campaign for sanctions, illustrates the contradictions almost everywhere evident in congressional thinking. Kennedy visited South Africa, denounced its policies on the spot and returned home to lead a strong campaign which was decisive in gaining nationwide support for action against the apartheid state. Yet, like the great majority of his congressional colleagues, in both parties, he is every whit as strong in support of Israel.

In June 1986, there is to be a United Nations world conference on sanctions to be organised by decision of the General Assembly by the U.N. Special Committee against apartheid in cooperation with the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the Non-Aligned Movement. The conference may well mark the turning point between the success or failure of the campaign for sanctions for which support is worldwide. In the OAU and among the non-aligned countries, there is widespread appreciation of the powerful threat to international intentions which is presented by Israel's association with South Africa. But there is only limited appreciation of it in the developed countries of the Western world, who really hold the key to the implementation of those intentions. An urgent task facing those countries is to cut off the huge escape routes provided by Israel's role as South Africa's sanctions buster.

The pontiff and the rabbi

By George Weller

ROME — The mid-April visit by Pope John II to Italy's grandest synagogue has again turned the spotlight on Zionism's outsize ambition of inducing the Vatican to recognise Israel and forfeit Jerusalem. This perennial resurrection comes from America's Zionists, not from Rome nor, this time, from America's Zionists, not from Rome nor, this time, from Israel. The hope that the Roman church would ever write off Jerusalem is practically dead, yet sometimes the ghost walks, but only in the U.S. Democratic party and the 70-odd Jewish public affairs committees or Washington's Zionist multi-lobby who keep flinging the same leaflets into St. Peter's garden.

But this abrupt turning of the Pope's ear towards the Italian Jews is not a mere defensive ploy to appear more attentive to the North Americans. It is a genuine, carefully timed initiative by a pontiff to seek counsel with a seasoned, nearby Jew, Rabbi Elio Toaff is no anti-Zionist, but he is a leader seasoned by dealing with the politically sophisticated minds of 20,000 prosperous Italian Jews, active in public life and office. They are not given to wild campaigns; they are disinclined to follow Reagan's Zionism; they understand why the Pope received Arafat after the U.N. had hailed him.

John Paul is that *man avis* among popes, a genuine and compulsive do-gooder. Unlike most of his predecessors, he suffers from an uncontrollable urge to go as promptly as possible to the smookest and starkest of issues. The Italian church is unaccustomed to such ardour in its popes, and feels uneasy with his Slavic energy and his romanticism. Why he wishes to consult Toaff they do not understand.

Toaff read his pope correctly. Wojtyla's years as a priest and bishop under both Nazis and communists (including many Jews)

have given him a feeling, even sympathy for Jews like Begin. But his sympathy is not for hire, unlike some Zionised American priests. He is politically hard to entrap, because he knows that the Holocaust is a trembling totem belonging to many faiths. When Catholic institutions wanted to convert and baptize Jewish children of vanished parents, Wojtyla insisted that the children remain Jewish until a rigorous search for parents had been made. He responds readily to the reality of family.

Last year Rabbi Toaff gave Wojtyla a warm surprise when he firmly refused to join an all-American conclave of Zionist rabbis and some pro-Israeli priests, brought to Rome by the American Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Their plan, riding on heavy publicity in the New York press, was to use the bond of New Testament "brotherhood" to hustle Wojtyla into writing off Jerusalem and recognising Israeli statehood.

It was not easy for Toaff, cautious Zionist that he is, to hold off the pleas of the American rabbis and his own Italian Zionists, that he lead, or at least get aboard, their repeated visits to Wojtyla. A Palestinian gunman, on a reprisal raid against Toaff's huge synagogue by the Tiber had shot a Jewish boy. Toaff refused to allow this outrage to panic him into getting aboard the hype, even though it was linked to the Vatican's 1965 message *Nostra Aetate* (In Our Time) calling for forgiving bonds with all faiths, including Judaism.

When Toaff was asked to define Wojtyla's initiative, his sensitive description was "courageous." Toaff's acceptance was not warmly received everywhere in Israel. Though he is of the Orthodox rite, the Israelis have little confidence in his ability to blow away Wojtyla's (deliberately low-keyed) attachment to the internationalisation of Jerusalem. The former chief rabbi, Shlomo Goren, now chaplain to Israel's

armed forces, objected: "What does this meeting of friends mean when the Vatican has not yet recognised Israel? Does the Pope imagine he can work up with those overseas Jews by ignoring Israel? He may be different from other popes, but mainly it's in his being an efficient politician." Apparently Goren was unaware that Wojtyla had extended continuous hospitality to the American Zionists visiting Rome. They propagated recognition, while Toaff — something like Chancellor Kresky of Austria — refused to commit himself to a totally Zionist policy.

Wojtyla has still to find — unless Toaff can help him — a way into the Palestinian struggle where the suffering is worst. He obviously would like to move in boldly, as he did in the Falklands war, and try to find a neutral terrain from which to operate. What holds him back is the fact that in the tribal struggles of Lebanon, the most regressive, evasive and opportunistic force has been his own uncontrollable flock, the Catholic Maronites. They deserted the defence of Lebanon; they treated secretly with the Israelis, waiting for Begin, Shamir and Sharon to present them victory on a plate; they are given by family assassinations; they are rich and their families escaped to Cyprus and Europe.

But Wojtyla is also ready to play the role of peacemaker among the four equally selfish Muslim factions. His initiative towards Toaff is therefore the right arm of a double effort, the other seeking Arab leverage. In early February Wojtyla perceived that he might make his Arab approach first, bypassing Lebanon, if he could gain Toaff's consent to the paired visit to Tiber synagogue, thus protecting his flank. The Syrian entry into the melee had long been opened by Israel's Foreign Minister Andriotti, a Catholic with nakedly pro-Arab pretensions. So, having locked onto Toaff's consent, Wojtyla daringly sent a nuncio to Dam-



ascus. His message was similar to others Assad has heard from the West: "How would you like to gain our forgiveness for using Soviet weapons — plus perhaps other bonuses — by sending your men into Lebanon to clean up for us?" Whether Wojtyla will get any further with Assad than anybody else has cannot be decided until the Syrian leader sorts out these proposals.

Wojtyla's way to Lebanon, through the Syrian back door, was chosen in order to avoid the almost automatic charge by the other Lebanese tribal nationalists that the Vatican (like the Americans ever since Eisenhower) was only trying again to rescue the Christian Maronites from Arabism and communism. Nobody even gave the Pope credit for receiving Arafat.

But rather opportunely, Wojtyla's attempt surfaced at the time when all men of good will were hailing his approach to the Italian Jews. So, to borrow a Jewish expression, one hand washed the other. Without bomb, mine or fighter plane, the burly Pole had found his church a seat on the aisle of peacemaking. But rain still pours through the jagged roof — Middle East International, London.

The writer is a retired U.S. journalist who now lives in Italy. His article is reprinted from *Middle East International*, London.

Wojtyla has still to find a way into the Palestinian struggle where the suffering is worst.

U.S. fails to involve Europe against Libya

By Patrick Worsnip
Routier

LONDON — Under pressure from the United States, and worried about Libyan threats and a spate of guerrilla attacks in Europe, West European countries are starting to take limited diplomatic action against Tripoli.

But some officials in Europe are expressing concern over reports that the U.S. plans military action against Libya in retaliation for its alleged backing of two guerrilla bomb explosions last week in which five Americans died.

While few NATO allies have cause to love Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, some of them cringed when President Reagan sent a naval task force into the Gulf of Sirte last month to challenge Libyan claims to the gulf as its territorial waters.

The Europeans have also so far resisted U.S. urging to impose economic sanctions on Libya.

Direct U.S. requests have been reported from West Germany and Italy for diplomatic moves against Tripoli following the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque last Saturday and of a U.S. TWA airliner over Greece on April 2.

A U.S. embassy spokesman in London said the United States "has been talking to all its allies over the past several days about Libya and terrorism" and had been exchanging intelligence with them.

But he said U.S. press reports of demands by Washington for blanket expulsions of Libyan diplomats from West European capitals were over-stated and the United States favoured expelling only those proved to be linked with guerrilla actions. West Germany on Wednesday announced the expulsion of two Libyan diplomats in a move seen as aimed at placating U.S. demands for action by Bonn after the bombing of the Berlin discotheque, which was crowded with American servicemen.

France said on April 5 that two Libyan diplomats in Paris had been ordered home because Paris claimed they were linked with a network suspected of plotting attacks on U.S. interests in France.

Spain on April 10 recalled its ambassador in Libya for consultations on reported threats by Qadhafi to attack countries harbouring U.S. military facilities. But diplomatic sources in Madrid

said Spain did not plan harsher measures at present.

Italian officials said on April 11 the United States had asked Rome to check Libyan diplomats there to make sure they were not involved in terrorist activities.

In January, Italy announced a partial arms embargo against Libya after allegations Tripoli was linked with a guerrilla attack on Rome airport in which 17 people died.

But the Italian government openly criticised the U.S. naval exercises which preceded clashes with Libyan forces in the Gulf of Sirte last month.

Belgium, which represents U.S. interests in Libya, also said disputes should be dealt with peacefully.

Britain and West Germany at that time voiced support for the U.S. action, but now, with two U.S. aircraft carriers steaming through the Mediterranean, Bonn is taking a cautious line.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl said at that time once talk of reprisals started "you must know what you are beginning and how you are going to get out of it at the end."

NATO secretary-general Lord Carrington said on Thursday Europeans might not support severe U.S. military retaliation.

In West Berlin, meanwhile, U.S. British and French military authorities disagreed on Friday over U.S. demands to bar East Berlin-based Libyan diplomats from the West. France said there was no firm evidence linking the diplomats with the discotheque blast.

The European Community, at a foreign ministers meeting in January, rejected economic sanctions against Libya.

Although European economic interests in Libya have fallen off with the decline in Libyan oil wealth, EC countries feel economic sanctions do not work.

"The Americans applied them and they proved to be useless," West German Economics Minister Martin Bangemann said on Thursday.

Nevertheless, Bangemann said the community should react strongly if Libya was proved to have been involved in guerrilla attacks. Libya may be discussed when EC foreign ministers hold a regular meeting in Brussels on April 21.

الوقت 14/4/86

Vietnam: in among the landmines

By Elizabeth Kemp

Vietnam's effort to replant its war-levelled countryside is hampered by the battle debris which the U.S. army left behind. Most dangerous are the three million unexploded land mines which regularly injure and kill peasants engaged in reforestation and cropping.

QUANG TRI, Vietnam — Militarised zone between North and South Vietnam — is a tangle of metal and electrified wire which once stretched along the dem-

fence, named after former U.S. Defence Secretary Robert McNamara, in 1977. In its place they planted 200,000 trees, just a fraction of the number needed to prevent Vietnam from becoming a permanent wasteland.

The Vietnamese have made strenuous efforts to reclaim their scarred and war-littered landscape. Bomb craters as large as nine met-

res in diameter remain, and some have been turned into fishponds; abandoned tanks and scavenged shrapnel have replaced bamboo in many village fences.

Despite equipment shortages and the danger from unexploded land mines (some estimates place the total at three million), 100,000 hectares per year are being reforested, with a 50 per cent survival rate. But 200,000 hectares of forest are disappearing each year, victim to slash-and-burn agriculture and flashwood collection in a country where wood is the principal fuel.

Far more forest is being lost than is being planted, and this is in addition to the 20 per cent of cropland and 2.2 million hectares of forest which Vietnamese scientists estimate were destroyed by bombing, mechanised land-clearing, napalming and defoliation by U.S. troops.

During the war the U.S. army ploughed up extensive areas of forest in the south, in what has been described by some scientists as the most intense land-clearing programme known to history. Almost all of South Vietnam was sprayed at least once by Agent Orange, a toxic chemical which strips the landscape of foliage. Over 40 per cent of the mangrove swamps along the southern tip of the Mekong delta were destroyed, and despite costly replanting, half of these have yet to recover. It may be 40 years before their productivity as woodland and fisheries is regained.

Working largely by hand, Vietnamese villagers — many of them children too young to remember the war — are faced with the task of restoring the 40 per cent of their country which is currently barren and booby-trapped. The fast-growing pine and eucalyptus saplings they are planting are a tes-



A father and his sons stand next to newly-planted eucalyptus saplings at the 17th parallel (Photo by Elizabeth Kemp)

ament to their faith in the future — Earthscan.

Elizabeth Kemp is the editor of "World Wildlife News" and is currently at work on a book about the environmental consequences of the war in Vietnam.

Randa Habib's Corner

Numbers that kill

If you want to inquire about a subscriber's telephone number, all you have to do is dial 12 and ... wait.

First you may get a busy tone, so you decide to be patient and you dial again hoping that somebody answers. After many attempts you hear a voice. You are ready to inquire about the number when you realise that the voice is a recording. A voice repeats endlessly that the Amman directory information is at your service but that you should wait for your turn. Fair enough, so you wait, but to no avail.

After one or two hours, the situation finally changes. This time you hear a dial tone that keeps on ringing but nobody answers, or even worse someone picks up the receiver and hangs it again. Sometime, though, somebody answers.

You quickly state that you would like to inquire about two telephone numbers. You give the lady operator the first name, she gives you the number and before you could inquire about the second she hangs off.

You call again: the same scenario. When you finally get someone you ask: "Why don't you wait until one finishes making his inquiries?" she answers: "We are very busy, if you are in a hurry call 195." You call 195. You ask the person on the other end about a subscriber's number. She answers "call 12," and immediately hangs off. You call again, furious this time: "Number 12 asked me to call 195. You tell me to call 12, what on earth is going on?" "If you have complaints call 630359," you are told.

You call 630359 and you start telling your story. You talk and talk to a very polite and understanding official, who apologises for the behaviour of his fellow colleagues. You then ask him to give you this famous number that you have been trying to get for hours. He gives you a number. You dial it but you discover it was the wrong number.

If you want to know how much your nervous system can take, try the Amman directory information.

Developers eye India's distant outposts

John Elliott recently visited the Andaman and Nicobar islands, Indian outposts where primitive tribes still kill intruders. But they may be pushed aside by plans to develop a trade zone and free port, as well as bringing in more tourists.

JUST over 44 years ago, in March 1942, Japanese armed forces invaded the remote and strategically important Indian Ocean islands of Andaman and Nicobar and within a couple of hours seized them from British control.

Today the future of these distant outposts is under debate in India. The question is whether or not to transform their character and tottering economy with an invasion of foreign-based industrial and commercial investment, while at the same time strengthening defences against another armed takeover.

Expatriate Indian businessmen from Dubai and Hong Kong, and the Association of Indian Engineering Industries, want to turn the 500-mile-long line of primeval forested islands, which accommodate some of the world's most hostile pagan tribes, into a free port and international trade zone as well as a major tourist centre.

The plans, which some islanders suspect would create a smuggling haven for black money, face practical problems which could endanger the islands' unique ecological heritage and hasten the threatened extinction of some of the tribes.

Economists say that for the same estimated cost of between \$2 billion and \$5 billion you could build a more profitable project on the Indian mainland, because a complete infrastructure would have to be created here, says Captain Vijay Prasad, a former naval officer who runs one of the islands' two main tourist hotels. He is a leading member of the "Save the Andamans" campaign.

Li-Gen T.S. Oberoi, the lieutenant governor who rules the area for the Indian government, stresses that the string of 370 islands and their tribes are a "sacred trust" which must be protected. He puts strategic defence as the first of the priorities for the islands, followed by protecting the tribes and the environment, and only then by economic development.

Once part of a mountain range stretching from Burma to Indonesia, the islands greatly extend India's territorial rights and provide it with a base in the Indian Ocean which it is determined to protect, fearing otherwise a parallel establishment to the U.S. base in Diego Garcia to the south-west.

India regards the ocean as its rightful preserve and wants it designated a zone of peace. It is carrying out extensive oceanographic research, primarily to explore for deep sea mineral deposits. The research also provides the Indian Navy with important sea bed information for submarine operations.

There is a major Indian base in the southernmost island of Great Nicobar and there are indications that India is building up its armed force on this and other islands. Of the 370 islands, 35 are inhabited by a total of about 225,000 people, including descendants of settlers from various parts of the Indian subcontinent and 23,000 tribal people.

There are five primitive tribes. One has been reduced in numbers from approaching 5,000 in 1901 to 27 now and, according to experts, faces the risk of extinction within 50 years because its birth rate is lower than its death rate. Called the Great Andamense, these pigmy negroid tribal people have genetic problems stemming partly from opium addiction and

the ideal is being promoted by three separate groups: Dubai-based Indians with links in London, looking for places for investment; Hong Kong Indians looking for alternative business locations when China takes over the colony in 1997; and the Association of Indian Engineering Industries, a major trade association.

This is a good way to promote exports, especially light electronic industries and services which would not do damage to the environment," says Mr. Tarun Das, director general of AIEI. It envisages the infrastructure being funded entirely by private sector companies which would be given 25 to 30-year franchises for operating services such as telecommunications and port facilities.

It wants the zone on an island because this would have more chance of creating a new environment, backed by a special brand of rupee as currency. Orinlays Bank has proposed the inclusion of an offshore banking unit.

Financial Times news feature.

China counts the cost of ageing

By Penny Kane

PEKING — China's remarkable breakthrough in raising life expectancy rates has posed planners with a new problem: how to support an exploding elderly population.

There are already more old people in China than in any other country of the world. Some 80 million, or 8 per cent of the population, are now over the male retiring age of 60. Within 15 years, the proportion will rise to 11 per cent and to 20 per cent in the first quarter of the next century.

The success of China's one-child family planning programme has helped to compound the problem of how to organise and provide the economic cost of supporting the elderly.

Traditionally, in China as in other developing countries, elderly parents have lived with and been supported by their children. China's 1980 marriage law emphasised this duty but economic progress — with greater urbanisation and mobility, rising incomes and changing social attitudes — has reduced the number of large family households.

A recent article in the Workers' Daily newspaper called for the establishment of a national social security system to provide pensions for the aged, job opportunities for retired workers and the development of welfare programmes, with special priority for childless couples.

It would not be easy to implement any of these proposals. State pensions are limited to state factory and government office employees and, in the case of factories, are paid from the earnings of the concern. Shanghai's 1.2 million retired workers now draw pensions and account for 20 per cent of the city's total payroll.

Pensions outside the state system are also offered by some locally-operated enterprises and communes (now renamed townships). Such schemes, unheard of 10 years ago, have mushroomed in recent years in the more prosperous rural areas. They have emerged from a demand among the growing numbers of elderly who fear that the family planning policy might leave them without family support.

In the countryside, the Five Guarantees provide food and clothing, shelter, medical care and burial expenses. But the level is minimal and people are sometimes reluctant to accept these benefits, because of the shame of indigency or because they want to retain the right to bequeath family property.

In the cities and in a few rural areas, enterprises and other employers now provide pensions for retired workers and such schemes are expected to expand. The cash outlay involved is usually quite small, but economists are already suggesting that private sector pensions may be reduced as the numbers in a community who can claim them increases.

Continued heavy reliance on pensions paid directly by employers is seen as an obstacle to intensive growth, partly because this reduces the mobility of workers, partly because it increases the difficulty and social cost of closing down or drastically reorganising inefficient businesses.

Job opportunities for retired workers is another vexed issue. The Chinese Government, faced

with an increasing number of well-entrenched senior officials, party cadres, military officers and academics past retiring age, has been trying to put the older ones out to grass. The motive is to open up promotion prospects down the line and to appease the frustration of middle-level cadres and young job-seekers from the baby-boom of the 1950s and 1960s.

In such a climate the option of providing more employment for the retired is fraught with difficulties. Nevertheless, the elderly already make a significant contribution to Chinese society, either in a voluntary capacity or with some small remuneration.

In Shanghai, arm-banded retired people act as traffic controllers, patrol parking areas and pedestrian crossings. Others mount watch from high chairs in department stores, directing crowds and controlling security. Throughout China, retired women act as neighbourhood welfare workers, helping the sick or handicapped, running street committees, carrying out family planning motivation and organising local creches or child care centres.

Without the Chinese grandmother the high level of female work participation in China would be impossible. But not every grandmother is enchanted by the idea of raising another generation of children, and not every family finds it easy to cope with the constant presence of its elder members.

In the past, the revered three or four generation family was not all that common as, given short life expectancy, the generations seldom overlapped for long.

Chinese families remain extremely close-knit. One adoring grandmother expressed the feelings of those who opt for independence. She would be desolated, she said, if she did not see her four children, and four grandchildren, once a week — but at the end of the family day, she was always happy to wave them goodbye.

Thus, especially in the cities, there is a rising demand for separate housing for different family units. Housing is already a major social problem and the difficulty of improving the inadequate housing stock and keeping pace with the demand from increasing numbers of new couples from the baby-boom years is enormous. To meet the increasing aspirations of many of the elderly will be a further burden.

With incomes rising under the new economic reforms, the day-to-day needs of most of the elderly are probably met. But as the elderly become the very old, new welfare needs will be required. Families may find it increasingly difficult to provide for the handicapped and chronically ill.

The pattern of Chinese health problems has already changed from that of a low-income developing country. It now faces the difficult challenge of preventing and treating such chronic diseases as strokes, cancer and heart disease.

The economic cost of supporting the elderly could in principle be reduced by cutting their living standards, but China, like other societies, wants its older people to share in the increasing prosperity that they have helped to bring about — People Feature.

American AIDS researchers begin tests on vaccine

By Jim Fuller

WASHINGTON — U.S. scientists say they have taken the first step toward a possible vaccine to protect humans against acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), a lethal virus that breaks down the body's natural resistance to germs that can cause life-threatening infections.

Medical researchers also report further advances in their search for a drug to cure those already stricken with the deadly disease. Research teams said April 9 that they have successfully used genetic engineering techniques to develop an experimental vaccine that produced antibodies against the AIDS virus in mice. Researchers hope the new vaccine can eventually be used to stimulate the human immune system to create antibodies to neutralise the AIDS virus. Antibodies are one of the body's natural weapons against infection.

"This has not been demonstrated," said Dr. Bernard Moss of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. "But at least we have a tool now to see whether or not we can protect with this. The next thing is to try to go from mice to monkeys. We're immunising monkeys now to see if they develop antibodies."

Researchers at a biotechnology subsidiary of the Bristol-Myers Company in Seattle, report that they have already used the vaccine successfully to produce antibodies in monkeys, and are planning to test it soon to see if it can protect chimpanzees against AIDS virus infection. The response of chimpanzees will be more relevant to

the prospects in humans since they are the only primates that become ill when infected with the virus.

Scientists plan to seek approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration before the end of the year to test the new vaccine on humans.

The vaccine was genetically engineered from the vaccinia virus, which was used in a vaccine to eradicate the disease smallpox almost a decade ago. In the new research, the vaccinia virus was remodelled to include a key gene of the AIDS virus that directs the production of two surface proteins, one required by the AIDS virus to attach to and invade cells, and the other having important structural functions.

In the animal tests, cells inoculated with the modified vaccinia virus reacted as if they had been invaded by an AIDS virus and produced antibodies against it.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, coordinator of AIDS research at the National Institutes of Health, said that it might be possible to use the remodeled vaccinia virus directly as a vaccine or as a means of producing large quantities of the surface, or envelope, proteins for use as vaccine material.

In recent years research has shown that the vaccinia virus can be engineered to protect against the liver disease hepatitis B, against other varieties of herpes virus and other infections. However none of the research has gone beyond the stage of animal experimentation.

Fauci said further studies are needed to demonstrate that the antibodies produced by the new vaccine actually protect against

infection with AIDS virus. AIDS patients generally have high levels of antibodies against the virus circulating in their blood, yet these antibodies do not seem to provide protection.

Scientists said another problem is that the retrovirus believed to be the prime cause of AIDS is highly variable. Its genetic structure changes rapidly, which means that a vaccine that protects against one strain may not provide immunity against others. The researchers see hope in a recent finding that parts of the envelope genes do not change: antibodies to proteins produced by these constant regions might protect against a wide range of variants of the virus.

Another major difficulty is that the AIDS virus may be transmitted directly from cell to cell, in addition to being released into the blood stream. Direct transmission would evade detection by antibodies.

Fauci said researchers have also made progress in the search for a drug to cure those already stricken with AIDS. He said that the drug zalcitabine, one of eight antiviral compounds under intense study, is moving into advanced trials on humans — the first AIDS drug to do so.

In addition to its ability to stop the AIDS virus from multiplying, preliminary indications show that zalcitabine, or AZT, might help rebuild the shattered immune systems of AIDS patients. A recent study by the National Cancer Institute reported that the drug boosted the immune systems in 15 of the first 19 patients to receive it and produced short-term improvement in some of their symptoms.

Fast foods—on wheels and elsewhere

By Liliane Ayoub
Special to the Jordan Times

In Amman, a variety of fast-food restaurants have been opened and others continue to appear on the market, and their popularity is encouraging entrepreneurs to venture in such businesses.

Queenburger, one of the first to introduce the concept of take-away hamburgers, has also launched the mobile van, which was later copied by a number of other companies situated at different locations in Amman.

Mr. Jabasini, the owner of Queenburger, said "we saw that outside Jordan vans are popular. Since the traffic on the bridge is heavy during summer, it was logical to place vans there." He also said that sometimes schools and organisations ask them to provide van on certain occasions, so that fresh sandwiches can be taken away.

Mrs. Khouri, a mother of two children aged 4 and 6 said: "My children like Queenburger. For them it is almost like a picnic to ride up to the van. The food is tasty and hygienic." Commenting on other fast-food restaurants, she added: "My children also like Tom and Jerry. The main attraction is the name. It is quick, the fries are good. It is a convenient solution for a quick family dinner, which breaks the home-made sandwich routine."

Mr. Jabra Khouri, co-owner of Tom and Jerry, said that it took him and his partners one year to study the project. He said that in Jordan, the percentage of teenagers is high and that about 30 per cent of Jordanians travel abroad once a year where they get ac-

quainted with that kind of food. He said that youngsters prefer to spend more on their clothes than on food, and therefore are attracted by cheaper fast-food. He added: "We also thought of creating a place to which a kid can invite his parents and not vice-versa, a mini-paradise that belongs to him."

He further mentioned that birthday parties are popular at Tom and Jerry, and that mothers are happy because it means less work for them.

Commenting on the concept of fast-food, Mr. Khourisaid that the immediate reaction of people is that it is junk food; however, this is not the case "because what we offer is pure beef, the bun is made of wheat, the weight of the burger is the same before and after grilling."

Probably with the intention to rectify the prevailing opinion that fast food is junk a framed poster has been discreetly hung on the wall of New York New York, next to the counter. Quoting from Forbes magazine, it says that pizza is nutritionally valuable. Listing the vitamin content of a pizza, it adds "It's hard to understand how pizza ever got the reputation of being a junk food. Perhaps it's because some people believe that anything that's popular can't possibly be good for you."

Mr. Hazem Malhas, owner of New York New York, said that many factors came into play before he started the restaurant. Since the quality of pizza is important they bought an expensive recipe and then embarked on the design of the place. "We introduced an ultramodern 'high-tech' design, a sort of space-truss,

for the first time, built by Jordanian engineers. We wanted to create a proper atmosphere for the young generation." And indeed, they did. New York New York is particularly popular among the teen-agers of Amman.

Sami Ne'meh, a 16 year old, said: "All my friends go to New York New York, especially on Thursday. It is a good meeting place, one watches different styles of dressing up, such as (mild) punk. Sometimes you get a bigger crowd outside than inside." He also added that some friends go to different places on a certain day, and that it is the same crowd that frequents the different fast-food restaurants.

A concerned mother objected that some of the kids linger too long, which might distract them from their obligations.

Another popular fast-food restaurant is Pizza Hut. Dr. D. Attallah, a young dentist, said "Pizza Hut is my favourite for a casual outing. The presentation is good, the atmosphere is pleasant and it attracts people of all ages."

There is a number of other popular fast-food places such as Kentucky Fried Chicken, The Fish House, and many others, and as the trend for take-away continues to grow, new places are expected to open their doors.

As one Ammanite said, "Although the traditional fellel and shawarma stands will always remain my favourites, I have to admit that the fast-food restaurants offer choice and variation."



Fast food vans are seen in many parts of Amman, and children and teenagers are among the customers.

Senna edges Mansell in Spanish Grand Prix

JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA, Spain (AP) — Brazilian Ayrton Senna in a Lotus-Renault won a fabulous victory in Sunday's Spanish Grand Prix, crossing the line just metres ahead of Britain's Nigel Mansell in a Williams-Honda in a wheel-to-wheel battle across the finish line.

In what may have been the closest finish ever in modern Grand Prix racing, Mansell charged up the finishing straight alongside Senna, diving for the line.

But Senna took the victory by an official margin of 0.014 seconds, which looked less than a wheel's length.

Mansell had taken the lead from Senna on lap 40 of the 72 lap race on the new Jerez speedway, but was passed by Senna and world champion Alain Prost in a McLaren-TAG-Porsche 10 laps from the end.

Mansell dove into the pits for a lightning tire change, resuming some 20 seconds behind Senna with nine laps to go.

The Briton used the extra grip of the new tires to carve into the leaders' margin, passing Prost to take second place on lap 68 but still seven seconds behind Senna.

He caught the Brazilian on the final lap, harassing him through the corners.

Right on Senna's exhausts through the slow turn into the short pit straight, Mansell swerved sid-

eways alongside the Lotus, but Senna just held on.

Prost finished third, 21 seconds behind, the only other car on the same lap, and his teammate Finn Kene Rosberg was fourth, a lap down.

The final points went to the two Benetton (formerly Toleman) BMWs driven by Italy's Teo Fabi, fifth, and Austrian Gerhard Berger, sixth, also both one lap behind the leaders.

Of the 25 starters, only eight were running at the finish, the others being Belgian Thierry Boutsen, Arrows-BMW, four laps down, and France's Patrick Tambay, Lola-Hart, six laps behind.

The win put Senna in the lead of the 1986 world championship with 15 points from two races. His Brazilian rival Nelson Piquet, who had engine failure here in the other Williams when third after 39 laps, is second with nine points.

Senna's winning time was 1 hour 48 min. 47.735 secs, an average speed of 167.486 kilometres per hour.

Mansell was credited with

1:48.47.749 in a finish equalled only twice in modern Grand Prix events, and would clearly have won had the finish line been a few metres further down the straight.

Britain's Peter Gethin in a BRM won the 1971 Italian Grand Prix at Monza by a 0.1 second, nearly a car's length ahead of Swede Ronnie Peterson's March-Ford.

In the 1982 Austrian race, Italian Elio De Angelis in a Lotus-Ford staved off Rosberg's Williams-Ford in a similar last-lap battle, crossing the line 0.05 seconds ahead, somewhat more than a wheel's length.

Sunday's race started as excitingly as its finished with a five-car group chasing Senna on the narrow track, with few passing possibilities.

Behind the Brazilian came Piquet, Mansell, Rosberg, Prost and France's Rene Arnoux in a Ligier-Renault, his teammate Jacques Laffite gradually losing touch with the leaders.

Mansell slipped back to fifth but was back up to third after 30 laps, behind Piquet and ahead of Rosberg and Prost, after Arnoux pitted.

It was a close five-car race, with no one else in sight. An important passing spot turned out to be the tight up-hill right-hand corner at the end of the pit straight.

India reaches Australasia Cup final

SHARJAH, United Arab Emirates (R) — World Cup champions India survived a late collapse to pip Sri Lanka in the last over and scrape into the final of the Australasia Cup cricket tournament Sunday.

India, given a flying start by Sunil Gavaskar, scrambled past Sri Lanka's total of 205 for nine wickets off the first ball of the 50th over with three wickets to spare.

Gavaskar hit a stylish 71 to win the man-of-the-match award and become the first Indian batsman to score 2,000 runs in one-day cricket internationals.

But the Indians had some anxious moments as they lost four wickets for just 10 runs and crumbled to 175 for five.

India, on Friday, will play the winners of the second semi-final on Tuesday between Pakistan and New Zealand. The tournament is the richest in cricket history, carrying prize money of \$110,000.

Sri Lanka, who won the inaugural Asian Cup last week to gain a place in the tournament, set the Indians a respectable target thanks to a mature 68 from 20-year-old left-hander Asanka Gurusinghe.

Indian paceman Chetan Sharma, called up to replace Roger Binny, bundled out the Sri Lankan openers Avarinda De Silva and Rochan Mahanama for just 20 runs.

But Gurusinghe batted with assurance and solidified the innings in a vital fourth-wicket stand of 71 with captain Duleep Mendis, who made 32.

Brilliant fielding by the Indians kept the Sri Lankans in check. Maninder Singh at backward short leg held a spectacular catch off a full-blooded hook by De Silva off Sharma.

The Indians were coasting to victory as Gavaskar and his opening partner Kirshnamachari Srikkanth piled on 93 at five an over.

When Srikkanth went for 59, Gavaskar and Mohammed Azharuddin pushed the score to 165 for the second wicket.

Gavaskar fell for 71, caught off a poor stroke, and the collapse began. Fast bowler Asantha De Mel, who claimed Gavaskar's scalp, bowled Azharuddin for 30 and Patel for two.

Left-arm spinner Don Ar-

nasiri lured big hitter Kirti Azad down the pitch to be stumped. Then skipper Kapil Dev lofted a catch into the covers for only three and the Indians were becoming nervous at 191 for six — still needing 14 to win.

Becker nips Edborg in WCT semis

DALLAS (R) — Boris Becker and Stefan Edborg fought a grueling semifinal match Saturday that eventually gave the West German a 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (9-7), 4-6, 7-6 (7-2) passport into the final of the \$500,000 WCT finals.

"We had some very good rallies and with the scores we had many close games," said the second-seeded Becker. "It was a very exciting match for the crowd."

Becker, 18, and third seed Edborg, 20, the two brightest stars in men's tennis, tangled once before in a four-set match, at last year's Davis Cup final. Becker won there, too.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Jansher Khan captures junior squash title

BRISBANE (R) — A cool Jansher Khan reclaimed the World Junior Squash title for Pakistan Sunday with a devastating 9-3, 9-0, 9-2 win over Australia's Rodney Eyles. Khan blitzed the unfortunate Australian national champion in an anti-climactic final which lasted only 30 minutes. Khan, younger brother of world number one Jhangir Khan, was in buoyant form despite an hour-and-a-half spent cooling his heels waiting for the delayed final.

Manager of Coventry resigns

COVENTRY, England (AP) — Don Mackay, manager of relegation-threatened English First Division club Coventry City, resigned after the team's 5-0 drubbing at standings leader Liverpool, the club announced Sunday. The central English club sank to 19th in the 22-team standings, and in the battle to avoid the drop to Division Two, has fewer remaining games than its rivals. Coventry's chairman, John Poynton, said Mackay handed in his resignation after the defeat at Liverpool and it was accepted at a specially convened meeting of the board of directors.

United stumbles again

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — Manchester United, once ten points ahead in the English Soccer League standings, slipped further behind in the title race Sunday when it was beaten 2-0 at home by Sheffield Wednesday.

Like its season, the Manchester United Defence fell apart in the second half as mid-table Wednesday scored twice through Carl Shutt (54 minutes) and a Mel Sterland penalty seven minutes later.

United's second straight home defeat meant that Ron Atkinson's expensively assembled team, which was ten points clear of its rivals at the end of October, remained five points behind leaders Liverpool and Everton, which both won Saturday and have games in hand.

During a thrilling first half of end-to-end soccer at Old Tra-

fford, both goalkeepers were forced to make fine saves, but the two sides turned round scoreless.

Nine minutes into the second half the visitor went ahead, when Garry Thompson unsettled United's defence and teed the ball up for Shutt to fire his 11th goal in 18 games.

Seeing its championship chances slipping away, United became desperate and the home defence, which had conceded only ten goals in its previous 19 home games, looked uncharacteristically ragged.

In the 61st minute, fullback Sterland chipped the ball over the advancing United goalkeeper, Chris Turner, who was forced to bring him down in the penalty area. Sterland had his revenge by sending the goalkeeper the wrong way from the spot.

European ban on English clubs may be lifted soon

LONDON (AP) — English soccer clubs, banned indefinitely from European competitions following last year's Heysel stadium riot that killed 39 people, could be allowed back for the 1987-88 season, a British press report said Sunday.

The ban followed the European Champions' Cup final between England's Liverpool and Italy's Juventus at the stadium in Brussels last May. Most of the dead were Italian and the riots were blamed largely on English fans.

The mass circulation News Of The World said that UEFA (the Union of European Football Associations) will decide next month that the ban should remain at least for next season.

Its report said, however, that there was strong support across Europe for the English clubs to return to the Champions' Cup Winners' and UEFA Cup com-

petition for the 1987-88 season.

"The feeling is that major European competitions are not the same without the English," said the News Of The World.

The report added, however, that UEFA would insist on tough precautions for re-entry and the format for the finals could be changed.

It speculated that if English clubs were allowed back, no tickets would be issued to their travelling fans. Instead, arrangements would be made to televise the games and beam pictures to the English clubs' grounds.

In an English team reached the finals of the Champions' Cup or Cup Winners' Cup, which normally are played on neutral grounds, they might be staged for the first time on a home and away, two-leg basis, said the News Of The World.

The UEFA Cup final is always staged over two legs.

Duelling it out over a nine-ball

By Paul Mindus
Reuter

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey — They were all here, the greatest pool players in the world, gunning for the biggest prize in the fastest game — nine ball.

They swaggered through a glitzy hotel ballroom, with their leather cue cases slung over their shoulders in a modern-day tableau of gunslingers from the American West — Billy "Corabread Red" Burge, "Spanish Mike" Lebron, Grady "The Professor" Mathews, Earl "The Pearl" Strickland.

As "Professor" Mathews put it, "Almost every great player in the world is here for this tournament."

The winner, Jim "King James" Rempe of Scranton, Pennsylvania, gave a dazzling performance with his \$10,000, diamond-studded Italian-made Meucci cue.

"Last call for nine ball," last week's four-day marathon at Resorts International Casino Hotel, was by common acclaim "The Biggest Tournament of All Time" — more than 120 professional pool players and aspirants for the big-time competing for a \$35,000 top prize.

Pool sharks and hustlers, epitomized by Paul Newman, who played Eddie Felson in the 1961 film classic "The Hustler," still travel across America looking for big games.

Even Newman himself, who is filming a sequel to "The Hustler" called "The Colour of Money," took a seat to watch the real-life Eddie Felsons duel on the green felt tables.

In the cotillion ballroom, 17-year-old John Archer fought back his tears. The young pool player from Twin Cities, Georgia, had just lost in his first major tournament against world-class players.

Watching nearby, a burly Floridian, Jay Flowers, who makes custom-leather cases for pool

cues, murmured: "Give me that kid's head for two years, and I'd make him a champ. You got to learn him how to lose. You can't carry a bad shot with you."

These professionals have commanding presence and precise control on the slate table tops but are a largely nondescript group outside a pool hall.

Inside, they swagger, exuding confidence bordering on arrogance. They speak their own argot, liberally laced with intense bursts of vulgarity, and they compete with totally absorbing concentration.

From before noon until almost dawn, they played at a grueling pace, surrounded by financial backers and friends who whistled, drank, smoked and bet on the matches.

Rempe, the champion, closed out the matches near midnight in the packed ballroom, smoothly despatching Philippines champion Efron Reyes, 11-5, in the finals for the top prize.

Reyes, working with a fluid grace, showed impressively steady calm. "He's a machine, and he doesn't do anything different for a dollar than he does for 30,000," said one handicapper. "That's how good he is."

Nine ball is a game of smashing break shots, tremendous spins on the cue ball to position it for subsequent shots and deft touches to leave an opponent blocked.

Compared to English snooker, three-cushion billiards or straight pocket billiards, it is a fast game, won by sinking the nine ball — and it has the drama of a duel.

Nine balls numbered one to nine are racked in the shape of a diamond, with the one-ball first and the nine-ball in the middle. Each player shoots the cue ball at the lowest numbered ball and wins by sinking the nine ball first.

For John Archer, the Atlantic City trip was his first taste of big-time pool. For four days, the thin, dark-haired youth with eyes darting from table to table, watched the best players he had ever seen sink shot after shot.

Greg Norman takes lead in Masters

AUGUSTA, Georgia (R) — Australian Greg Norman took the lead from Spaniard Seve Ballesteros in the third round of the 50th Masters championship Saturday as South African Nick Price jumped into a tie for second with a record 63.

Norman, who regained his putting touch after struggling in the first two rounds, fired a four-under-par 68 for a 54-hole total of 210 and a one-stroke lead over Ballesteros, Price, defending champion Bernhard Langer of West Germany and American Donnie Hammond.

Tommy Nakajima of Japan — who has made "friends" with the 13th hole, where he scored 13 in

1978 — was tied in third place at 212 with two-time winner Tom Watson and tour veteran Tom Kite.

"I sorted out my putting this morning. I got my feel back," said Norman, who could have led Friday if he had not four-putted the 10th green.

"It's a nice feeling to be in the lead and I'm looking forward to Sunday," added the Australian, whose ability to hit the ball long is an advantage on the 6,903-yard Augusta National Golf Course.

"It's a dream to break the course record," Price, a native of South Africa who calls himself a Zimbabwean, said after he electrified the galleries with his record performance, which did not include even one eagle.

"It was so much fun playing the last five holes — everyone was pulling for me," added Price, who broke a record held by his boyhood idol, Gary Player of South Africa, and five others.

Ballesteros, who started the day with a one-shot lead, improved it by two before disaster struck on the final two holes, where he made back-to-back bogeys for an even-par round of 72.

"My position is still very good,"

"I'm nervous. They play a lot better than I thought they would," he said. Archer had practised six hours a day and played in smaller tournaments in Georgia and Florida, but, he said, nothing had approached the calibre of play here.

The man who ended Archer's hopes, Richard Lane, played almost continuously from noon, when he beat Archer, until 3 a.m., when he finally lost in his seventh match of the day.

Cue-case maker Flowers, watching Lane ponder a shot, said in a Southern drawl, "I don't care what anyone says. Dickie Lane is so slow, he makes a snail look fast."

Lane, a slender 37-year-old pro from Dallas, said endurance is important in pool so he walks three kilometres on a treadmill daily. This pays off in tournaments because "You have to come out of the blocks and run from the start."

In pool halls, hustlers can afford to size up opponents and lose a few games first before smashing their victims.

But tournament play allows little room for error and long-time champions learned in Atlantic City that if they did not start quickly and in sharp form, they would not go far.

Finalist Reyes stunned one of the best U.S. nine ball players, Danny Diliberto of New York, with an 11-2 romp in the quarter-finals, because Diliberto was not in top form.

Rempe, who took the \$35,000 prize, has collected 55 major titles since he began playing pool full-time 16 years ago.

He has played extensively in Europe, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. He won a snooker tournament in New Zealand and won the English World Pool Championships in 1984 and 1985 in London.

"You have to learn to lose before you win," Rempe said. "A lot of players don't know how to win... you have to grab chances, keep a clear head and a steady hand."

said Ballesteros, a two-time Masters champion and the youngest player to win the coveted green jacket.

"I'm not happy with the way I finished but I'm happy to be where I am," added the Spaniard, who tied for second here last year.

Langer, who won the title last year in only his third visit, was also satisfied after shooting a 69 in which he said he "could have made three or four more putts."

"I'm pretty happy where I am," said Langer, who made three birdies and no bogeys on a calm, cloudy day which enabled many players to improve their scores.

"I'm still up there so it looks like it will be a great Sunday," added Langer, only the third foreigner to win the Masters, after Player and Ballesteros.

Hammond, who won the Bob Hope Classic in January for his first victory, gained a share of second place with a five-under-par 67, the best score of the day after Price's 63.

"Augusta is now one of my favourite courses," said Hammond, who had five birdies, including four on the front nine, and no bogeys.

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Reagan boasts bringing down oil prices

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Saturday took some credit for the sharp drop in oil prices and called it a boon to the U.S. economy.

In his weekly radio address, Mr. Reagan said the oil price fall had resulted in part from his administration's decontrol of petroleum prices.

"Some are having to make a difficult adjustment to these new lower prices but overall less expensive oil represents a tremendous boon to our economy," he said.

"When our administration took office we at once decontrolled the price of oil. Some predicted this would send gas prices at the pump through the roof. Not so. The production of oil and other fuels increased, putting pressure on the OPEC cartel. Today, the OPEC cartel has been dramatically undercut and oil prices have collapsed from about \$34 a barrel in 1982 to about \$13," he said.

Mr. Reagan criticised Congress for being slow to approve a 1987 budget resolution.

He said opposition Democrats in the House of Representatives were "resisting all attempts to control spending" and that the Senate Budget Committee, led by his Republican Party, had approved a plan that would raise taxes by \$50 billion over three years.

"Isn't it time Congress got government out of the way and let the good (economic) times roll?" he said. He defended his 1987 budget plan, particularly its heavy increase in defence spending and its lack of tax increases.

Analysts believe that falling oil

prices have sharply reduced U.S. inflation and should contribute to a stronger economy just when the Reagan administration needs it — in time for national elections in November.

Several private analysts told Reuters the government deserved some credit for the improved economic outlook but they said the U.S. central bank, falling oil prices and plain luck were also factors.

"There is little doubt growth will be picking up in the second half of this year and probably will continue strongly into next year," said Mr. Robert Ormer, chief economist of the Commerce Department.

If a surge in the economy brings more jobs and increased consumer purchasing power this summer, the administration will probably reap the benefits in the November elections for the Senate and House of Representatives, the analysts said.

Oil prices, which kept inflation high for nearly a decade, have been tumbling since November, producing a record drop in wholesale prices over the first three months of this year. The magnitude of the decline has surprised most economists.

Inflation should fall to two or three per cent this year, economists predicted, in stark contrast to the level of eight to nine per cent when President Reagan took office.

The Labour Department reported earlier that wholesale prices, as measured by the producer price index (PPI), fell 1.1 per cent in March following declines of 1.6 per cent in February and 0.7 per

cent in January.

For the three months, the decline of 12.4 per cent on an annual basis was the largest in any three-month period since the department began keeping records in 1947.

Economists expect further, though less dramatic, declines in the PPI, which measures prices paid by manufacturers and others for unfinished goods before they land on retail shelves.

The change stems mainly from oil prices that have fallen by more than half over the last few months, but analysts also cite other factors.

The administration's policy of reducing government interference in the economy through deregulation, including the decontrol of oil prices, has helped, said Mr. Leonard Santow, a managing partner of the consulting firm Griggs and Santow.

More importantly, the Federal Reserve (Fed), the U.S. central bank, under the chairmanship of Mr. Paul Volcker has maintained tight control over the nation's money supply to put downward pressure on prices.

"The administration deserves some credit for supporting the Fed when they were squeezing inflation out of the system," said Mr. Lawrence Chimerine, chairman of Chase Econometrics. "Their free-market approach helped, and then a lot of it was pure luck."

Meanwhile, Congress is showing new interest in a petroleum import fee to help the depression-hit U.S. industry and shield the nation against too much reliance on foreign oil.

But congressional sources say it will be difficult if not impossible for an oil import tax to pass without the backing of Mr. Reagan, who still strongly opposes it.

House of Representatives Democratic leader, Mr. James Wright has called for an import fee to help prop up domestic oil prices, warning that the "orgy of cheap oil" will not last long.

He told the National Press Club: "When they (foreign producers) have served their purpose with cheap oil and we are overly dependent on them, the price will... go up."

Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad N. Batshon

AMMAN — The dollar opened higher than expected against all major European currencies, after realignment of the European Monetary System. Bullish sentiment to the dollar was encouraged by remarks made by Treasury Secretary James Baker indicating that he was satisfied with the value that the dollar has fallen to since the U.S. and four other industrialised nations agreed last September to drive down the U.S. currency.

The dollar reached a high of 2,415.5 on the mark and 202.15 on the Swiss franc and 183.25 on the yen.

On the oil market, the price of crude oil rose to about \$12.20 a barrel, up \$1.20. This sharp rise was due to Vice President George Bush's remarks that the U.S. may have to abandon the free market approach on oil policy if the American oil industry suffers more damage from falling oil prices.

The stock market fell nearly four points, recovering late in the day after being down as much as 21 points. Bond prices also dropped amid uncertainty about oil prices.

Gold prices closed higher on a buying spree late in the day as oil prices moved up. It settled at \$339.40 up \$4 from the previous week high. Silver also rose higher closing 14 cents to \$5.34.

In midweek trading, the dollar fell sharply on all major European currencies on news that the U.S. has begun to sound out its allies on the possibility of another round of coordinated interest rate reductions before the seven nation economic summit conference in Tokyo in early May.

The stock market staged impressively ending the week of declines. The Dow Jones

industrial average rose 34 points to close at 1769.76. Lower prices in the oil market and renewed hopes for further drops in interest rates were cited for the surge. The bond market also staged a rally, with treasury bonds rising by nearly three points.

Gold rose to \$340.50 in moderate trading. Silver rose to \$5.3650 due to higher oil prices and a weaker dollar.

On Friday, Wall Street trading activity was sharply higher. Stock prices continued to improve during the day on expectation that the Federal Reserve would cut its lending rate. World financial leaders put Japan on notice that it must allow the yen to reach still higher values to achieve a more stable economic order.

On this news the dollar fell sharply against the yen followed by sharp fall against the mark and the Swiss franc.

Gold jumped to a new high of \$346 and silver to \$5.55. This gain happened because of the decline in the dollar value and because of the tensions between Libya and the United States.

Personal charting opinion

Stay short on the dollar, sell more on 2,315.00 on the mark. Take profits on (225.50-226.00) dollar-mark. Your stop loss should be 335.50.

On Swiss franc, stay short on dollar/Swiss francs. Sell more on 195.25, taking profits on (1,886.01,89). Your stop loss should be 197.25.

On yen, stay short on the dollar/yen, sell all your position on 179.25, taking profits on 174.50.

On gold get out of your short position, get long on the \$342-\$340 level. Gold should trade this coming week between \$340-\$348.

Industrial growth in Asia slows

Malnutrition remains major problem

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Industrial growth in the developing nations of Asia slowed last year while production increases in agriculture were absorbed by growing populations and low commodity prices, according to a U.N. report released Sunday.

The report by the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) attributed the sluggish growth in manufacturing output in 1985 to rising protectionist measures in Asia's export markets and a weakening of domestic and external demand for manufactured goods.

The report presented a bleak picture of Asia's struggle to feed itself, noting that food output in 1984 grew by 3.4 per cent, barely exceeding the population growth rate and insuring that malnutrition remained a major problem in many countries.

The 1985 economic and social survey of Asia and the Pacific was prepared for the 42nd session of ESCAP, to be held in Bangkok April 22-May 2. Government officials charged with social and economic development from many of

ustrial benefits from the recent economic reforms," the survey said. The total value of the country's industrial output increased by 14 per cent in 1984, with substantial gains in rolled steel, automobiles, tractors and light industrial and consumer goods, it said.

In India, growth in production of capital goods was faster than that of consumer products in 1985, another year of substantial industrial growth, the report said.

The survey also noted advances in the manufacturing sector in Malaysia and South Korea.

It said problems in the mining sector — particularly with the dramatic fall in tin prices — focused attention on a dilemma of many developing nations in Asia.

"The abundance of supply of several metals and minerals has contributed to the weakening of their prices in the world markets. But pressing economic and social imperatives, such as earning foreign exchange and creating employment opportunities, have often forced the developing countries to

keep production above strictly optimum levels," it said.

In agriculture, the survey pointed to what it called a continuing long-term decline in world prices in most commodities which it said may have resulted in a loss of as much as \$1.4 billion for Asian food exporters over the decade 1974-83.

Agricultural raw materials such as rubber and logs have also suffered from lower prices, with losses estimated at nearly \$2 billion over the 10-year period, the report said.

It said only seven out of 21 selected Asian countries could be considered "nutritionally secure," with 10 others unable to supply adequate calories, even on a national basis.

The survey said that even though China and Indonesia had achieved notable growth in food production, the region could not be considered even close to food sufficiency as long as India, Pakistan and Bangladesh continued to lag behind.

Capital markets envisage hardships

LONDON — Growth of business in the international capital markets has become almost unstoppable. At least, that is the common view in the banking community after another record year in 1985.

Swept on by a tide of liberalisation in domestic markets, new business volume surged 32 per cent to a new all-time high of \$261 billion.

Particularly striking was the explosion in the Eurobond market where new issue volume rose 66 per cent to \$135 billion, according to figures compiled by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The growth of business has opened up new vistas for the shape of the market as a whole. International bankers now dream of a global market in which all types of security — equity as well as debt — can be traded around the clock, free of national barriers and time zone constraints.

If this happened, the Euro-markets which started off 20 years ago from a narrow base, serving the dollar investment needs of retail investors in Europe, could be said to have truly come of age. The ideal is one world market pushing remorselessly forward as it scales new pinnacles of efficiency, sophistication and geographic reach.

Yet for all the unbridled sense of opportunity that abounds in the market place of today, some bankers are also privately seeking to inject a note of caution. The past two years have seen business growth and structural change at a pace unprecedented in the brief history of the Euromarkets.

Competitive pressures have increased as more and more banks have sought to climb aboard the bandwagon in securities markets. Soon, and perhaps faster than many people think, a process of

consolidation could set in.

No one can deny the great stride forward made by the Eurobond market in 1985, but it is equally easy to see two strong reasons for this which may not be felt so forcibly in 1986.

The first was the steady decline in interest rates which saw U.S. Treasury bond yields fall decisively below 10 per cent in the early days of this year and made fixed-rate bonds particularly easy to market in 1985.

The second was the growing sophistication of the floating-rate note market which encouraged many borrowers to refinance their debt on ever more favourable terms, boosting the volume of new business by more than \$10 billion.

It is hard to see these factors asserting themselves so strongly again.

Despite the decline in oil prices, many believe that interest rates may not have much further to fall. The dollar has fallen sharply on exchange markets, and this has clearly deterred some European investors from buying dollar bonds.

While institutional investors have stepped up their buying during recent years, retail investors have stayed on the sidelines. Overall, the rise of bond prices in Europe has lagged behind that of New York and, as the differential between the two markets has widened, Wall Street's domestic market has become more attractive to borrowers than before.

Bankers in the floating-rate note market, meanwhile, complain that both borrowers and investors have lost interest. In part this is a natural consequence of the general decline in interest rates which has focused fresh attention on fixed-rate markets, but it also reflects a flattening of the short-term yield curve which makes it harder for banks to finance holdings of floating-rate notes at a

profit. In the fixed-rate bond markets much depends on the trend of interest rates. If they stay low, or even fall further, there could be a flood of borrowers seeking to refinance their debt on favourable terms.

Italy did just this in January when it launched two fixed-rate bonds totalling \$350 million and carrying a fixed rate of interest of 8% and 9% per cent.

The danger is that interest rates could rise again. Then bonds which are now being offered at ever finer terms in the market could become much harder to sell. Already the explosion of business over the past few years has led investment banks to carry record inventories of paper on their books.

Professional trading of securities between securities houses has reached fever pitch. Credit Suisse First Boston, the market leader in the Eurobond market which launched 113 securities issues last year, reports that its daily group turnover exceeded \$2 billion in 1985, almost double the level of the previous year.

The potential for losses is huge if the market ever went into reverse. That could drive out of business many of the smaller houses now trying desperately to carve out a niche in the securities business. If consolidation did become inevitable one clear consequence would be a leaner market under the control of a few well-capitalised big houses.

Of course, the markets for securities in currencies other than the dollar now offer increasing scope for business. Spurred on by the trend towards liberalisation in Tokyo, issuance of Euroyen bonds has now hit record levels.

According to OECD, issuance of Euroyen bond rose to the equivalent of \$12.9 billion last year from just \$6.1 billion in 1984.

Taken together with Samurai bonds issued on the domestic market, this means that the yen sector has now outstripped issue volume in Deutsche marks, adds Salomon Brothers, the U.S. investment house. The German sector is growing too, since far-reaching measures announced a year ago to open up the market and add new instruments like floating-rate notes and zero-coupon bonds.

In other words, the decline of the dollar has placed new emphasis on business in other sectors. The French franc Eurobond market has reopened; last year saw issues in a range of new currencies like the Danish crown and even Italian lire. A whole new market has grown up in Eurobonds dominated in Australian and New Zealand dollars.

An obvious response to upsets in the dollar market would thus be to reinforce the trend to doing business in other markets.

That may not, however, be quite as easy as it sounds. Despite the trend to liberalisation, barriers have not been fully broken. Turnover tax in Germany, for example, impeded the development of a profitable floating-rate note market there and an underlying problem is that real credit demand from end-users remains very weak.

A study by the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements last summer brought together for the first time figures for net lending in the international banking and capital markets combined.

They showed that in the first half of 1985, net new finance provided to non-bank borrowers was only \$70 billion. At this level, business is still way down on the early years of the decade. In 1981, for example, total net lending was \$190 billion.

— Financial Times news feature.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, APRIL 14, 1986
GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day finds everyone with whom you come in contact alert to what is going on about them and you can take advantage of this mental acuity.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) In the morning, you can get your ideas to the attention of others successfully, but after lunch a worrisome matter crops up.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Quietly make arrangements for increasing abundance in the near future in the morning, but later avoid one who is pessimistic.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You can come out of a ticklish situation through the auspices of a good friend today, then join a humanitarian social group.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Avoid a new contact who wants to use your sympathy. Get ideas from a prominent person how to gain your goals.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Join a friend at some new place where you can garner advanced data and use it cleverly, but later avoid an argument over a bill.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan how to get greater expertise at your work as the week opens and make the future brighter.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Please a new contact with your fine sense of humor and improve the relationship. Don't let a whining fellow worker disturb you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are able to gain more profits from the activities you engage in today, so pursue them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Take a partner out to lunch and discuss some project that is of mutual importance. Be clever.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Take more time to make your home look more charming in the morning, and then be sure to drive carefully.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Arrange a meeting with one you enjoy very much, but take care you do not overspend later.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Talk over monetary affairs with family in the morning, and come to a fine agreement. Rest up this evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be very ingenious and inventive and can work well with both the mind and hands, so be sure to give a good combined course of education so that the best use will be made of the natural talents. Let the career start early as desired, since the mind will turn to hobbies.

THE Daily Crossword by Norma Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1 Belle or Bart
- 6 Ernest or Anya
- 11 Music makers
- 13 Regal seats
- 15 Confused
- 16 Strict
- 17 Hag
- 18 Law
- 20 Fed. agcy.
- 21 Amaze
- 23 Startle
- 24 Read the — act in
- 25 Wading bird
- 27 Large bird
- 28 Joel Chandler's uncle
- 29 Appears for the first time
- 31 Pickles
- 33 Charlemagne's realm; abbr.
- 34 Elec. unit
- 35 Emergencies
- 38 Facet
- 41 Thin rock
- 42 Facial spasms
- 44 Sour
- 46 Follow
- 47 Valletta's land
- 48 Fudge
- 50 — Yin Tin
- 51 Pendant part of the pinnas
- 53 Afternoon social
- 54 Eng. playwright
- 56 Chicken
- 58 Populated
- 59 Hang
- 60 Active for one
- 61 Signs of sorrow

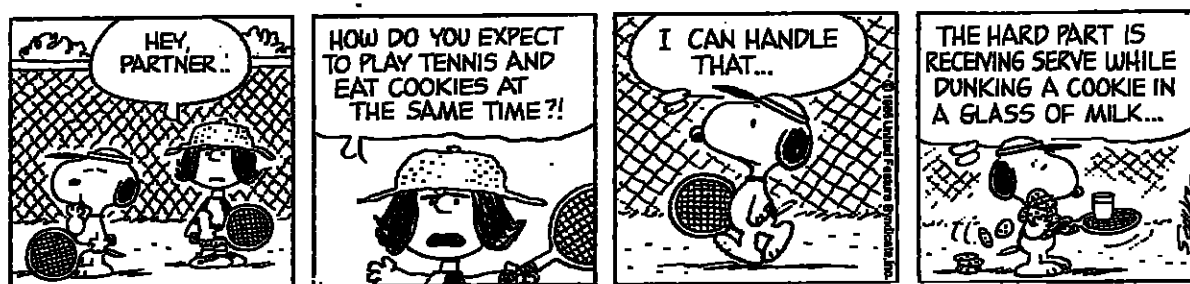
DOWN

- 1 Too formal
- 2 Fable feature
- 3 How — you?
- 4 Basty film
- 5 Sings flying
- 6 Author Nevil
- 7 Gaudy
- 8 Type
- 9 Et
- 10 Edgy
- 11 Great hit
- 12 Gaps
- 13 Zodiaca bull
- 14 Chairs
- 15 Scotch cap
- 22 San Francisco landmark
- 24 What Dangerfield lacks
- 26 Most cuts
- 27 Got peg
- 32 Pact acronym
- 35 Long chairs
- 38 Ice
- 37 Gazed
- 39 Cast
- 39 Person's dial
- 40 Soup bowls
- 41 Barber's teacher
- 43 Sticky
- 45 Goutee
- 47 Impressionist
- 48 Chica
- 51 — Stanley Gardner
- 52 Freedom from concern
- 55 Unwrap to poets
- 57 Health resort

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS: 1. BELLE, 6. ERNEST, 11. MUSICIANS, 13. REGAL, 15. CONFUSED, 16. STRICT, 17. HAG, 18. LAW, 20. FBI, 21. AMAZE, 23. STARTLE, 24. READ THE ACT, 25. WADING, 27. LARGE, 28. JOEL CHANDLER, 29. APPEARS, 31. PICKLES, 33. CARLEMAN, 34. ELECTRIC, 35. EMERGENCIES, 38. FACET, 41. THIN, 42. FACIAL, 44. SOUR, 46. FOLLOW, 47. VALLETTA, 48. FUDGE, 50. YIN, 51. PENDANT, 53. AFTERNOON, 54. ENGEL, 56. CHICKEN, 58. POPULATED, 59. HANG, 60. ACTIVE, 61. SIGNS, DOWN: 1. TOO, 2. FABLE, 3. HOW, 4. BASTY, 5. SINGS, 6. AUTHOR, 7. GAUDY, 8. TYPE, 9. ET, 10. EDGY, 11. GREAT, 12. GAPS, 13. ZODIAC, 14. CHAIRS, 15. SCOTCH, 22. SAN FRANCISCO, 24. DANGER, 26. MOST, 27. GOT, 32. PACT, 35. LONG, 38. ICE, 37. GAZED, 39. CAST, 39. PERSON, 40. SOUP, 41. BARBER, 43. STICKY, 45. GOUTEE, 47. IMPRESSIONIST, 48. CHICA, 51. STANLEY, 52. FREEDOM, 55. UNWRAP, 57. HEALTH.

Peanuts



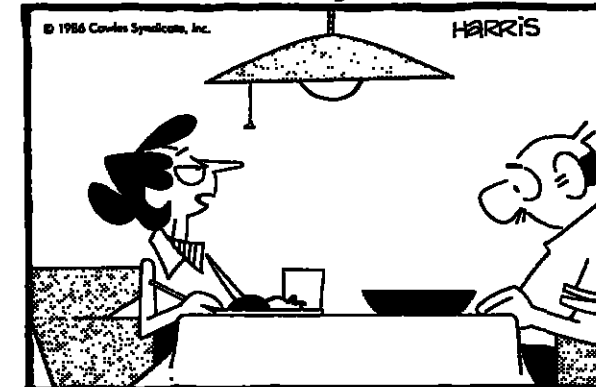
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YENED

DAPAT

SEPORC

TURSIM

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

ANSWER: MORE

Yesterday's Jumbles: ELDER ACUTE BURIAL DURESS

Answer: It's better to be dead sure at a railroad crossing than this — SURE DEAD

Militant Sikhs urge armed struggle against New Delhi

AMRITSAR, India (R) — Militant Sikhs Sunday called on India's 14 million Sikhs to take up arms and fight the government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Saffron-turbaned militants armed with swords and spears approved the call at a special meeting at their holiest shrine, Amritsar's Golden Temple, which had been ringed by paramilitary troops and police.

They passed a resolution which said: "Sikhs are slaves in this country and they must arm themselves to snap the shackles of slavery."

They charged India's Hindu-majority government with depriving Sikhs of their rights and they accused Mr. Gandhi of allowing the "massacre" of Sikhs in November 1984 after his mother Indira Gandhi was assassinated by Sikh bodyguards.

The meeting came during one of the worst waves of bloodshed to sweep the northern state since extremists launched a campaign four years ago for a separate Sikh nation known as Khalistan (land of the pure).

More than 130 people have been killed in extremist attacks and clashes between majority Sikhs and minority Hindus in Punjab since the beginning of last

month.

Despite police fears of violence, the 5,000-strong crowd broke up peacefully with cries of "long live Khalistan" and "long live Bhindranwale."

Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a fiery fundamentalist leader, died along with about 1,000 people when the Indian army stormed the Golden Temple in June 1984 to flush out Sikh extremists.

The resolution read: "Bhindranwale had said the foundations of Khalistan would be laid if the army entered the Golden Temple... the government took the initiative in this process."

It urged Sikhs to force Punjab's moderate Sikh Akali Dal government to resign for failing to fulfil election promises to release jailed Sikhs and pardon Sikh soldiers who mutinied after the storming of the Golden Temple.

The Akali Dal came to power last September after signing a peace accord with Mr. Gandhi in July.

The resolution, passed by acclamation, accused Mr. Gandhi and President Zail Singh, a Sikh, of

allowing the massacre of thousands of Sikhs in the aftermath of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assassination.

"They should be charged with murder," it said.

The militants, who seized control of the Golden Temple after a similar meeting on Jan. 26, accused the government of trying to stop the gathering by setting up road blocks around the holy city of Amritsar. Police prevented some Sikhs from entering the city and searched others outside the temple.

Security has been stepped up across north India this week to avert possible extremist attacks to disrupt Sunday's spring festival of Baisakhi, which is celebrated by Hindus and Sikhs in Punjab.

Mr. Gandhi, who accused extremists of trying to stir up communal feelings, said in a holiday message: "Baisakhi this year has a special significance for our people. The nation today faces major challenges. A determined effort is to be made to overcome the forces of communalism and extremism threatening the hopes and aspirations of the people."

Police have arrested more than 700 people in the past week in Punjab.

Guinness family denies rift with police

DUBLIN (R) — A prominent Dublin banker whose wife is being held by kidnappers for a \$2.5 million ransom has denied there has been a rift between the family and police.

John Guinness, a member of the Irish brewing family, made his first comment Saturday night since his wife Jennifer was abducted by an armed gang from their home on Tuesday.

A police spokesman who read out the statement said there had been no breakthrough in the case. There has been no contact with the kidnappers since the abduction.

There have been reports of disagreements between the Guinness family and the authorities since word leaked out that the family had engaged a firm of security consultants specialising in ransom and extortion demands.

The Irish government opposes the payment of ransoms, believing that this will lead to further kidnappings.

In his statement John Guinness said: "There has been no rift or misunderstanding with the police, in whom we have the greatest confidence, and to whom we are deeply indebted."

"Our common objective is the safe return of Jennifer to her family."

Police said they were concerned over the failure of the gang to make contact after a three-day deadline they set at the time of the abduction.

On Saturday, police raided dozens of houses of suspected criminals in Dublin and elsewhere in Ireland in a search for any clues leading to the kidnappers, who they still believe to be common criminals.

Pope canonises monk

VATICAN CITY (R) — A Franciscan monk, Francesco Antonio Fasani, described by Pope John Paul as a shining example to modern pastors, was canonised Sunday in a ceremony in St. Peter's Basilica.

Fasani, an Italian who lived from 1681 to 1742, was formally proclaimed a saint by the Pope in the crowded Basilica.

"The new saint is a particularly shining example to the apostolate," the Pope told pilgrims in St. Peter's Square after the ceremony.

"We have a new guide, a new master who will help us to understand better the unique and model example of Jesus the good shepherd," the Pope added.

18 drown in Guinea Bissau

LISBON (R) — At least 18 people were drowned and three were injured when a canoe ferrying passengers across the River Cacheu Estuary in northern Guinea Bissau capsized and sank Saturday.

Portuguese state radio reported Sunday.

The radio, quoting a report by the National Guinea News Agency ANG, said the canoe was travelling from Sao Domingos near the frontier with Senegal to Cacheu on the river's south bank.

Officials feared the death toll could rise as the exact number of people travelling in the canoe was not known, the agency said.

U.S. said to have warned Sin of murder plot by Marcos

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine Cardinal Jaime Sin said in an interview published Sunday the U.S. embassy warned him during the February revolt that toppled President Ferdinand Marcos that Marcos wanted him killed.

U.S. embassy spokesman Alan Croghan, when asked about the Sin statement, said: "I haven't heard of that before."

The Sin interview was published in the Sunday Inquirer, a weekly magazine published by the newspaper Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Sin, a frequent Marcos critic, has been credited with playing a major role in Marcos' downfall by calling on Filipinos over the radio to take to the streets and support the four-day rebellion.

The magazine quoted Sin as saying he spent the four days in his suburban villa monitoring radio reports on the uprising. He said his security men had told him not to go out "because there are still (Marcos) loyalists who might hit me," it said.

"We were praying and praying and the American embassy told me that Marcos is going to kill me so I have to leave the house," Sin was quoted as saying. "When I was about to leave, people already were dancing. That meant that

Bhutto: Break-in was murder attempt

GUJRANWALA, Pakistan (R) — Opposition leader Benazir Bhutto struggled through a sea of people chanting "Zia must go" along the road from Lahore to tell supporters at a rally early Sunday she had escaped an attempt to kill her.

Up to half a million peasants and workers in cars, trucks, buses, horse carriages and donkey carts, choked the grand trunk road from Lahore to Gujranwala. They delayed until 3 a.m. Ms. Bhutto's arrival for a mass rally timed for late the previous afternoon.

Ms. Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) who returned from exile on Thursday to launch a drive for new elections, stopped her motorcade at least eight times to speak to them. The 67 kilometre journey took her 13 hours.

Colourful arches and banners decorated the main streets of the Punjab industrial city. About 25,000 people remaining from a crowd that had waited all day heard her declare in floodlit Sherwala Park that a man who broke into a Lahore house was trying to kill her.

"It was a murderous attack," she said of the incident, in which a former army major claiming she was his wife burst into the wrong house and was overpowered by servants.

A Punjab province government

spokesman denied it was a murder bid, saying the man appeared deranged and was unarmed.

The men Ms. Bhutto has been challenging to new polls — President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo — Saturday issued their first warnings to her.

Gen. Zia, who overthrew her father Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1977 and saw him hanged two years later, said mass rallies generated "more heat than light," and the nation wanted light, the official Associated Press of Pakistan reported.

"People have faith that they can say what they like," he said of the atmosphere since martial law ended in December. "But this must be restricted to a limit and should not transcend the borders of sanity."

Mr. Junejo, appointed by Gen. Zia to lead the controlled democracy he introduced, said he could not understand why some parties were out campaigning when the next elections would not be until 1990.

Ms. Bhutto told the festive crowd in Gujranwala:

"Junejo says there is democracy. Let us go to the people. If they say there is democracy, we will sit at home."

She returned to Lahore after her short speech to rest before further rally in another Punjab industrial city, Faisalabad.

Pravda blasts U.S. nuclear test

MOSCOW (AP) — The Communist Party daily Pravda on Sunday accused the United States of undermining international security and the spirit of last year's Geneva summit but it gave no indication the clash over nuclear testing will derail the next superpower summit.

In its weekly international review, the authoritative daily said the latest U.S. nuclear test in Nevada flew in the face of protest in the United States and elsewhere against test bans.

"Washington's reckless actions, its imperial disregard for the aspirations of the peoples, including the American people, patently showed who is who in world politics. Who really conducts the course of consolidating international security and who undermines it in every way," Pravda said.

Pravda made no specific mention of the Soviet announcement Friday that Moscow was ending its eight-month self-imposed moratorium on nuclear test blasts because of continuing U.S. tests.

It reiterated, however, that the Soviet Union would respond to any American military challenge, including the "Star Wars" space weapons it argued will be developed through continued nuclear testing.

Washington's desire to develop what the Kremlin argues are offensive weapons in space is behind the policy of continuing nuclear tests, Pravda commentator Nikolai Kurdyumov said.

Despite the massive media and public campaign in the last week against U.S. nuclear tests, Kurdyumov gave no indication that Moscow is currently ready to use the quarrel to call off the next superpower summit.

He reiterated a statement from Mikhail Gorbachev last week that the Soviet Union still seeks a summit, but wants it to bring "practical results" for disarmament.

Pravda said the Soviet Union

is for a rebirth of the atmosphere of Geneva, for the summit being a step forward," Kurdyumov said.

He made no mention of a meeting scheduled for May 14-16 between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Washington.

The United States has said that this meeting is intended to prepare a summit between Mr. Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The two leaders agreed tentatively in Geneva last November that this meeting should take place in the United States in June, but Mr. Reagan virtually ruled that date out when asked about the summit at a news conference last Wednesday.

On Thursday, the Soviets announced the Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting in a terse report that made no mention of the coming summit.

Waldheim 'was informed' of deportations

ATHENS (R) — Former U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim was among the best-informed people in the German occupation forces in 1944 when Jews were deported from the Greek islands, a German-born expert on the period said Sunday.

Writing in the Greek newspaper Vima, Professor Hagen Fleischer said Dr. Waldheim's claim not to have known about deportations from Salonika in 1943 was "not credible" and his claim to ignorance of the 1944 roundups was a "provocation."

Vima also reproduced what it said was a hitherto unpublished photograph of the Austrian presidential candidate with senior German officers in Athens in 1943.

Dr. Waldheim is at the centre of a worldwide political storm following allegations by Jewish groups about his war service.

Fleischer said he reserved judgment on whether or not Dr. Waldheim had been prominent in rounding up Jews.

But the professor, who teaches at the University of Crete, said Dr. Waldheim's work as an intelligence officer in 1944 covered a very wide range of information,

and that his unit received messages referring to deportations from the Greek islands.

Fleischer said the deportation of over 40,000 Jews from Salonika beginning in March 1943 — at a time when Dr. Waldheim was based there — was commented on by ordinary soldiers, and could not have passed unnoticed.

He said Dr. Waldheim had served as an interpreter at meetings between German commander Gen. Alexander Loehr's staff and the Italian forces in Greece, in which Italy's refusal to deport Jews from areas under its occupation must have been one of the subjects of discussion.

He said Dr. Waldheim was in Athens in July 1943 when a German command was set up there to operate alongside the Italian one.

In the months up to Greece's October 1944 liberation, Fleischer added, Dr. Waldheim was "one of the best informed people in the German forces" with knowledge of "virtually all aspects of the occupation of the Balkans."

But Fleischer said he had not found Dr. Waldheim's name in his own research into German military archives, or in thousands of pages of evidence at a trial covering the Salonika events.

Dr. Waldheim told the West German news magazine Der Spiegel in an interview about his wartime past that he was a decent soldier who did not feel responsible for the atrocities of the Nazi dictatorship.

Dr. Waldheim told the weekly magazine in an interview for its latest edition:

"I was no Nazi... I was a decent soldier who was forced into the service of the German army like hundreds of thousands of others. I did nothing wrong."

"I deeply regret the dreadful tragedy brought about by the Hitler regime, especially against the Jewish population, but I personally do not feel myself responsible for it," he said.

He repeated earlier denials of accusations by the Nw. York-based World Jewish Congress that he was involved in atrocities against Greek Jews and Yugoslav partisans during World War II, including murder.

In a separate interview to appear in the West German newspaper Welt Am Sonntag, Dr. Waldheim said the accusations against him were a "pack of lies."

Witnesses said one placard read, "Uncle Sam, bring back our president." Another read, "We love Marcos. We miss Imelda (Marcos' wife) 'we hate Cory' the nickname of Mrs. Aquino."

Several movie figures, including former sex star Alona Alegre, joined the barricade Saturday night, defied police orders to disperse, and called for Marcos' return to the Philippines, witnesses said.

About 50 riot troops, backed by three fire engines, approached the crowd, beating staves on their shields, but withdrew when the demonstrators refused to back down.

Witnesses said a man, hoisting his baby over his head, shouted at police, "go ahead, kill us."

The government-controlled press has launched a campaign to discredit Ms. Bhutto, suggesting the PPP is unfit to rule.

Newspapers run by the government-controlled National Press Trust (NPT) resumed criticising the five years of her father's government and the Bhutto family.

When Benazir was greeted by about a quarter million people when she arrived from London after more than two years of self-exile, NPT papers reproduced pictures and reports alleging police excesses against demonstrators claiming election rigging by her father.

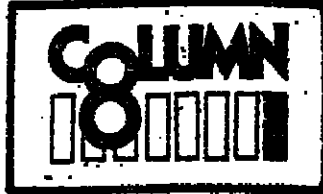
The main English-language newspaper Pakistan Times said "world media... in the hands of Jews" were building up the 32-year-old Benazir.

It said the PPP had made the country bankrupt economically, politically, socially, religiously and educationally.

"The people cannot put the country at stake a second time," the paper declared.

State-run radio and television have ignored her return, though she makes headlines in privately-run newspapers.

Ms. Bhutto herself could hardly have heard any criticism over the din of cheering crowds lining the road to Gujranwala on her first rural tour since returning from exile.



2 Britons start wheelchair trek across Europe

ISTANBUL (R) — Two handicapped Britons Sunday began a 3,200 kilometre wheelchair journey from Turkey to Birmingham to support the British midlands city's bid to host the 1992 Olympic Games. Bill Levick, 49, and Tim Marshall, 39, started the trek, expected to last over five months, by crossing the Bosphorus Bridge from Asia to Europe, saying they were confident of completing it. Two vans donated by Birmingham will escort them along the route, which takes them through Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Austria, West Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg and France.

Soviet citizen complains about drunken foreigners

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet newspaper reader complained Sunday that many foreigners living in Moscow spent their time drunk and authorities did nothing to stop them.

V. Kutuyev, an electrician, wrote in the daily Sovetskaya Rossiya (Soviet Russia) that foreigners should be seen to be receiving the same penalties for drunkenness and hooliganism as Soviet citizens. In Saudi Arabia, Americans, Britons and other foreigners were severely punished for even looking as if they had a drink, he said.

"But here, drunken foreign louts sometimes dare each other to see who can behave most like hooligans," he said he would be happy to see reports of foreigners held in custody for 15 days for drunkenness, the usual penalty for repeated violations of anti-alcohol laws introduced as part of the Kremlin's year-old crackdown on drink.

200,000 French are AIDS carriers

PARIS (R) — A French AIDS specialist has said there were 200,000 healthy carriers of the deadly virus in France. Jean Claude Serrmann of the Pasteur Institute said in a television interview estimates from blood tests conducted around the country since October showed 200,000 people were sero-positive, or asymptomatic carriers of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

About 10 per cent of carriers eventually develop the incurable disease, which attacks the body's immune system and has killed more than 10,000 people since it was first detected in 1981. There have been 573 cases of AIDS reported in France, where the disease is spreading faster than any European country at a rate of about eight or nine new cases a week.

Indonesia has no AIDS — Suharto

JAKARTA (R) — President Suharto ordered his health minister to spread the news that nobody in Indonesia has AIDS, the official Antara News Agency said Sunday.

Health Minister Suardjono Surjaningrat told newsmen after meeting Mr. Suharto Saturday that blood tests at Washington's Walter Reed Naval Hospital on a woman thought to have contracted the deadly virus proved negative. The health minister quoted Mr. Suharto as exclaiming, "thanks be to God," upon hearing the report, Antara said.

He repeated earlier denials of accusations by the Nw. York-based World Jewish Congress that he was involved in atrocities against Greek Jews and Yugoslav partisans during World War II, including murder.

In a separate interview to appear in the West German newspaper Welt Am Sonntag, Dr. Waldheim said the accusations against him were a "pack of lies."

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Several movie figures, including former sex star Alona Alegre, joined the barricade Saturday night, defied police orders to disperse, and called for Marcos' return to the Philippines, witnesses said.

1 killed in Manhattan jewelry holdup

NEW YORK (AP) — Gunmen shot and killed a jewelry store employee then traded shots with pursuing police while fleeing through midtown Manhattan, authorities said. Bullets grazed a pedestrian and a police officer. Police nabbed two men but said at least one other participant in the holdup got away. The victim, Morris Ashkenazy, of Manhattan, was shot in the head and died at the scene, said police Sgt. Ron Severin. Police arrested Alfredo Dejesus Feliciano and Ensal Lebron Hernandez, and charged them with murder, attempted murder of a police officer, assault and attempted robbery, said Severin.

As the would-be robbers tried to holdup the Acez Jewelry Manufacturing Co. in its fourth-floor office, two police officers were one floor up on a medical call, department spokesman Sgt. Ed Burns. The officers chased the holdup men, who fired at them on the street, Burns said. Police fired one shot in return, Burns said. A bullet grazed the leg of a passer-by and another passed through one of the officers' sleeves.

Bangladesh imposes limit on poll campaign spending

DHAKA (R) — Authorities imposed a limit Sunday on the amount of money candidates may spend on campaigning for next month's Bangladesh parliamentary elections.

The election commission ruled that candidates may spend up to 100,000 taka (\$3,300) for travelling and printing posters and leaflets for the May 7 polls. The limit on personal expenses is 2,000 taka (\$66).

All candidates would be required to submit returns of their campaign expenses within 35 days of the announcement of the poll results, a commission spokesman told reporters.

He said the new law was designed to ensure that the polls were free and fair.

The elections are designed to help give Bangladesh an elected government after four years of

military rule by President Hossein Mohammad Ershad.

Meanwhile police said Sunday one person was killed and more than 50 were wounded in campus violence in Dhaka and Rajshahi and bomb attacks by youths on buses in the capital.

Pro and anti-government students at Dhaka University fought with home-made bombs and hockey sticks Saturday, leaving five people hurt, university staff said.

Twenty people were injured in clashes between bomb-throwing student groups at Rajshahi University, police said.

A 31-year-old television technician died and more than 25 other people were injured when unidentified youths threw petrol bombs at buses in Dhaka.

The attacks on the buses could be politically motivated, police said without giving details.

Life in W. Berlin unaffected by security boost

WEST BERLIN (R) — New security restrictions were in force in West Berlin Sunday to try to prevent infiltration by guerrillas, but everyday life appeared unaffected by the measures.

U.S., British and French military authorities responsible for security in the Western sector of the divided city Saturday empowered the police to expel anyone they believed was a security threat.

The measure was taken in response to the bombing of a discotheque last Saturday in which two people were killed.

Western diplomats said it was largely aimed against Libyan diplomats based in East Berlin, suspected by the United States on involvement in the bombing.

Police said no Libyans or other nationals had yet been turned back at border points.

They said details of the order were secret but security sources said the operation, described as "exceptional and provisional," would mean stricter identity checks on people entering from the east.

"The order gives the allies a legal basis for kicking someone out quickly if they think he's a danger," one diplomat said. "But basically, it's just a headache keeping a check on the border."

"All in all, the order has more of a symbolic character than anything else," he added.

The Western allies cannot conduct permanent border checks since they do not recognise the East-West Berlin demarcation line with its Communist-built wall as an international border.

West Berlin police vans were parked at the approach to the crossing point to East Berlin known as Checkpoint Charlie and some cars leaving or entering were stopped.

Travellers on underground or railway trains from the East reported no systematic document

checks.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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A SLUFF AND DISCARD!

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 98752
♥ A6
♦ K96
♣ J75

EAST
♠ Void
♥ KQ109752
♦ 75
♣ KQ1082

SOUTH
♠ AK1064
♥ J4
♦ A43
♣ A62

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ 3♣ 2♦ 4♠
4♠ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Three of ♠.

Being end played on two successive tricks is rather like sitting in your own lap. West was forced to perform this unusual feat with the help of some excellent dummy play technique by South.

East-West's preemptive tactics pushed the opponents into a theoretically unmakeable contract. The bid we like most is East's leading-directing four clubs. He was quite prepared to retreat to four hearts, so it cost him nothing to highlight his side values en route.

West's three of clubs was ob-

viously a singleton, and when dummy appeared the mirror distribution was in jeopardy. Matters got worse when, after winning the ace of clubs, declarer led the king of trumps and discovered that he had a trump loser in the bargain.

However, West's preempt gave declarer a glimmer of hope. If West held seven hearts headed by the king-queen, he could have only three minor suit cards. He had already shown up with three spades and he had led a club, so he could have at most two diamonds. That would permit declarer to strip West of all his exit cards.

Declarer cashed the ace-king of diamonds, led a heart to the ace and returned a heart to the jack and queen. West exited safely with the queen of spades, but declarer won the ace and tucked West back on lead with a trump. Now West was truly end played.

He had nothing but hearts to lead. On the first heart, declarer sluffed a club from dummy and a diamond loser from hand. West was still saddled with the lead and had to continue another heart. Declarer ruffed the heart continuation in hand as he discarded the board's last club, and the defenders had no more tricks to take. The only tricks they scored were two hearts and a trump!